THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE Presents
BING
Edited by FRANK MURPHY
AIR STUDIOS

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THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE
incorporating
THE BRITISH CROSBY SOCIETY
founded 1950

Hon Vice-President: LARRY CROSBY

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Renewals - When your renewal is due, a special renewal notice will be included with your magazine - To ensure continuance of your membership please note your renewal must be received within one month of your receipt of same.

When writing to the clubs officers, please always extend the courtesy of a stamped self addressed envelope.

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Honorary Members include;-
Dorothy Hardiman-former Pres - Mick Drury-Tape Crosby
Stan White-former Publicity Officer

THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE
presents
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SUPPLEMENT "THE BING CROSBY SONG BOOK appears by courtesy of Alan Lurie and Ron Bosley

"THE PUBLIC NEVER THOUGHT OF ME AS AN ACTOR AND I DO NOT EVEN THINK THEY THINK OF ME AS A SINGER. I AM JUST A CITIZEN, HAVING A GOOD TIME, ENJOYING LIFE AND THE CHILDREN"
Bing Crosby-Newcastle Evening Chronicle
Friday September 8th 1967.....

LETTERBOX

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I think we could change the name of this magazine to letterbox - since the last issue a truly fantastic number of letters has reached me, influenced mainly by a leading article on the club in the DAILY MIRROR and also by the increasing activities of our star Bing. Off we go with the first part of your news and views

JIM HILL writes from Stonehouse, Glos, England
Many thanks for the newsletter about Bing's new recordings for Reprise. I have just bought the RARE STYLE album and it certainly is. Bing magazine is as great as ever and full of interesting reading.

NINIAN FAICHNEY writes from Stirlingshire, Scotland
I greatly enjoyed the Autumn issue and roll on the 25th of this month. I greatly appreciate all the work you dedicated Bing men are doing, and have already done. Although I was never able to buy all of Bing's collossal output (I've about 700 items only on 78's LP's and tape) at heart, no-one is a keener supporter of all things Bing - RARE STYLE was a great turnup, and I've ordered in advance his very recent issues.

Mr B THOMPSON writes from GRIMSBY, England
Since reading the article in the Daily Mirror I just could not resist the temptation to write to you. For years now I have been a constant admirer of Bing Crosby and though my collection is not large, about 50 scratchy 78's and 4 reels of tape, I am constantly trying to get hold of his early recordings when his voice was young, such as LET'S SPEND AN EVENING AT HOME, MAY I, LOVE THY NEIGHBOR etc - I would appreciate any advice on how to obtain these recordings as they do not seem to be on sale in the shops.

TONY BULMER writes from Guisborough, Yorkshire, England
I read the article in the Daily Mirror about your organisation, The International Crosby Circle and would like to join the club - I am nearly 14 years old, you will probably think I am rather young but I am old enough to know good singing when I hear it. I do not care for pop groups, I do not like their music and they soon die out, But a man like Bing Crosby will never be forgotten. My collection is modest compared to yours, but it is a beginning. I have 7 LP records and one tape which contains songs from about 14, 78's, all of course by Bing.

ALFRED FARROW writes from Hull, England.
I read and re-read the article in the Daily Mirror about your Crosby Circle and decided that it was for me - No need to tell you that I am a devotee of Bing Crosby and have been since I heard his voice from Radio Luxemburg in the early 30's.

FREDERICK MURRAY-HILL writes from Co Weastmeath, Ireland.
I noticed the article in the Daily Mirror and can say it is the first time I knew a Bing association was in existance in England - good show - My reason for writing is to say that we are an English family out here attempting to make a living out of tourism, we also are middle aged, and young "Bing" fans, always have been, with a family of teenagers, up to 25 - If you would be kind enough to send to my wife any literature and puplicity I'm sure she would literally go 'potty' if a letter came direct to her from you - please don't mention I have written or it might mar the expected surprise - I agree that Bing was, is and will always be the greatest recording artist and producer and I trust you might assist me in the aforesaid request as it would add some further happiness to 25years of marriage (27 Dec)

BRENDA MILES writes from Surrey, England
Please find enclosed my subscription to "BING" for another year, I would like to thank you for the past 4 issues and also for your help in the 6 years that I have belonged to the club.

RON DAVIES writes from Brackenwood, Leeds 8, England.
I was reading the article in the Daily Mirror by Colin Dunne about your admiration of Bing Crosby, which was my delight to read, seeing as I have always been a great fan from the time I was in the forces in 1943 - I am writing to you and sincerely hope I will be able to join the International Crosby Circle - It's always been my main ambition to meet Bing in person, but until that day comes along I will appreciate being in touch with you.

ERIC MOORE writes from Liverpool, England.
Ref our recent telephone conversation it does seem blatently clear that the record companies are woefully unaware of the following that Bing has - made obvious by their reluctance to issue albums of early Bing material of which I am sure they have in abundance. Perhaps an appeal to all members of the ICC to write to their respective record company personally might have some effect - I think it would be worth a try in the next issue of the magazine.

RON DANIELS writes from Elizabeth West, South Australia.
Many thanks for the interesting magazines "BING" and "THE GOLDEN YEARS" which kept me well supplied with interesting reading right through the Christmas break.

SUSAN LAKE writes from Earls Court, London, England.
I enclose a postal order and wish to become a member of the Bing Crosby Circle for one year.

ERIC PARKER writes from Shipley, Yorks, England
Many thanks for your letter and good wishes and best wishes to you for '68 - by the way a million thanks for the photo of Bing, I already have it very prominently placed - I'll be sending you details of my early episodes to see Harry Lillis Crosby later.

MARY HOWARTH writes from Bentley, Donacster, England.
I would very much like to join the Bing Crosby Fan Club as I've been a fan for years. I don't think there has been anyone to beat Bing yet - I never knew there was a fan club in Britain until I saw the piece about you all in the Daily Mirror.

Mr F THOMAS writes from Birkenhead, Cheshire, England
I wish to become a member of The International Crosby Circle and The 1930's Record Society and enclose postal orders to cover both subscriptions.

SYD ' SMYTH writes from New South Wales, Australia.
May I say how much I look forward to the ICC journal and enjoy its contents my it takes plenty of time to get through it properly and of course as a reference back it is always valuable.

THOMAS COLMAN writes from Manchester, Lancs, England
After reading that wonderful article in the Daily Mirror I am writing to ask if I can join your wonderful organisation The International Crosby Circle - I feel so proud writing to you and to know that you have met Bing no less than 8 times, and also your good friends in the club. I am 53 years of age and Bing has been my idol for three decades - He is the greatest of all and my greatest ambition is to meet him one day. I would give my right arm just to see him let alone shake hands with him - Here's hoping you can manage to fit me intoyour wonderful club for Bing.

Mr J BRAILSFORD writes from Rotherham, Yorks, England.
Would you please send details of your International Crosby Circle to the above address as I am interested in joining your organisation.

RAYMOND ELLIOTT writes from Co Derry, N Ireland
Many thanks for the Oct issue of BING, great reading and better than ever is the great news of the new Reprise recordings - I have just bought Bing's latest album the great RARE STYLE.

EILEEN KNIGHT writes from West Bromwich, England
It was great to see Bing in THE ROAD TO MOROCCO on BBC TV on Boxing Day, the children and I enjoyed it very much - Good luck with the January issue of "BING" and may I wish you and your family every blessing in 1968.

(more letters over)

LETTERBOX

HENRY HOLLOW writes from Tasmania, Australia.
Although some early Bing films were recently shown on TV in other Australian States, they have not been shown here. But we did see ICHABOD again. A very clever dialogue neatly synchronised with the action. I still find time to listen to the radio, and am inclined to think that the current trend of ins erting old78's into the feature programmes enables me to hear a little more of Bing. In addition to this, revivals of old ballads by currently popular musicians causes announcers to acknowledge that some of them were originally featured by Bing. But alas, their knowledge of just when is a bit hazy. What is needed is a book titled A RADIO GUIDE TO BING CROSBY compiled for the benefit of D.J's, and listeners. I must leave you now, as I'm trying to track down when JUST ONE WORD OF CONSOLATION was written. But first I must listen to the song, as sung by you know who.

RAYMOND MC CORMACK writes from Belfast, N Ireland
Congratulati ns on the recent write-up in the Daily Mirror, this was definately a boost to the "BING" magazine and to Bing himself - best wishes for 1968 and many thanks for the great reading in 1967.

AGNE JEPSON writes from Lund, Sweden.
Now I know Bing has made 4 sides for Reprise I'm curious to know if they well ever get to the shops in Sweden. Bing's RARE STYLE has'nt got here yet but fortunately a friend of mine imports records, mainly jazz, so he got me the copy. He did advertise the record too, but so far he's only sold two copies, one of them mine, the other his own. Unfortunately Bing's no great seller in Sweden any longer. By the way the same man managed to get me a copy of A FINE ROMANCE/THE WAY YOU LOOK TONIGHT by Bing and Dixie Lee Crosby, and it certainly was a surprise - The last issue of "BING" was great as usual and I was very surprised at seeing the pictures from THE BIRTH OF THE BLUES with "BigT" - thanks to whom it may concern for these great pictures.

ROY CLARK writes from Leeds 13, England.
Thank you for your very prompt reply to my letter re the Crosby Circle, I enclose P.O. to cover the subscription in respect of both my wife, Denise, and myself - We are incidentally aged 21, yours truly, and my wife, 20, and to both of us, Bing is 'the Tops' - We would also like to take this opportunity of wishing all Bing fans a very happy 1968.

KEN HOPKINS writes from Victoria, Australia
I joined the ICC in September of 1967 after receiving Keith Hyde's address from fellow member John Purches of Adelaide and am eagerly looking forward to the club magazine - I've been an avid Crosby fan for sometime now and at the time of writing require approx 130 sides to complete Bing's commercial output.

GEORGE HUGHES writes from Clackmannanshire, Scotland
I wish to take this opportunity ofthanking you for the excellent "BING" magazines during the past year - I always look forward to receiving mine, being a younger Bing collector (25) I find a lot of information in the magazine which has been very useful to me and my collection.

MAURICE SILBERSTEIN writes from Hauts-de-seine, France
Thankyou for your leaflet which I have read carefully. I am first a theatre pipe organ lover, but do you know someone having a little musicianship and who does'nt like Bing Crosby's voice and songs - I am mostly interested by AUCTION/MART which is on the ICC side of your leaflet and I am now awaiting further news from you.

DON LOVE writes from Cheshunt, Herts, England
I've been very lucky lately with the 'Masters's' old recordings and have obtained several I've been after for ages such as WE'RE A COUPLE OF SOLDIERS, SHADOWS ON THE WINDOW, WITH SUMMER COMING ON and OUR BIG LOVE SCENE and as I write, I have RARE STYLE on the turntable so if this note is a little scratchy, please forgive me - best wishes to all fellow club members for 1968.

TERRY "BING" SHANNON writes from Manchester 16, England
Reading an article today of your Bing Crosby fan club I wish to say how very much I enjoyed it. Bing has been my favourite since I was 16 years old - I am now 36. I am 'Terry' of the TWO SHANNONS (Cabaret artists) and I also sing like Bing in our shows. I would very much like to join your fan club so would you please send me full particulars - The Bing songs I sing on stage are mainly oldies such as DOWN BY THE RIVER, BLACK MOONLIGHT, EASY TO REMEMBER etc - I have a fairly big collection but still need loads of the early ones such as from the films COLLEGE HUMOUR, TOO MUCH HARMONY and GOING HOLLYWOOD - for the songs from these films I have searched high and low, and still I seek.

MR S METCALF writes from ASHTON UNDER LYNE, Nr Manchester, England.
I read in the Daily Mirror about your Crosby club - I used to be a Bing fan many years ago - I am now aged 69., but I still hold a record which I think was his best, but I have never heard it anywhere else, only on my gramophone - I also hope you have it as I think it was the best record Bing ever made - THINE ALONE

LOIS BRITTON writes from Wythenshawe, Mancester, England.
I have just read the article in the Daily Mirro about your Bing Crosby fan club and my thoughts have been turning to Bing at the moment. I was a great fan and this coming Boxing Day my husband and I will celebrate our Silver wedding - we were both in the RAF and after the wedding ceremony had a nice meal at my mothers though fooddwas hard to get - we did'nt know what to do after the meal as my husband and I only had the one night off duty, which we were spending in an hotel off Picadilly Circus - so a party of about 10 of the guests in including the bride and bridegroom went to the local cinema to see THE ROAD TO MOROCCO and the song I think about as my special wedding song is MOONLIGHT BECOMES YOU
to me it was Bing's best, even better than WHITE CHRISTMAS - I assure you I shall be singing that song next Tuesday (Boxing day) and I wonder how many of my guests will remember that day - Wishing you continued success with your club.

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* EDITORS NOTES *
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If space permits I hope to use a few more of the wonderful letters received since the last issue and I want to thank the many members and new enrollers for sending in what must ammount to a really bumper postbag - as indicated at the beginning of this feature - we could really fill the magazine with letters and its a credit to the members of the club that so much interest continues to be stimulated by the magazine - NINIAN FAICHNEY apolpgises for having only 700 items by the maestro - you've a hefty collection there Ninian, one to be proud of - and members looking for the very early film titles can take heart at the great news re the forthcoming two album set featuring such gems as MAY I, MOONSTRUCK etc - It's a special pleasure to welcome young TONY BULMER tothe club, hope you received the tape safely Tony and found it enjoyable - It would be interesting to find out if Tony has beaton MICHAEL CRAMPTON'S record of having been the youngest to join the club - when Michael joined he was then 13 years old, Tony is not 14 yet, so could well have pipped ichael - perhaps the boys could sort this one out - I certainly agree with ERIC MOORE - we should all write to the companies re more early Bing - Hows about it members? - I'd like to thank ROY AND DENISE CLARK for some very nice letters and hope we can meet these new members when we next get together at Leeds - It must have been very nostalgic for LOIS BRITTON to see Bing in THE ROAD TO MOROCCO on Boxing Day 1967, on the occasion of her Silver Wedding anniversary - what a thrill that it should be scheduled for TV screening just on that very day - we hope you enjoyed it Lois, just as much as we enjoyed your story of the event. It was especially nice to see so many members closing their letters by sending best wishes to other members of the club - that's TEAMWORK, as described so aptly by the 'greatest' Please keep writing, as everyone enjoys your newsy letters and interesting contributions to the magazine.

ALAN LURIE PRESENTS THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE, EXTRACTED FROM THE DAILY EXPRESS PUBLICATIONS 1937 BOOK 'STARS & FILMS OF 1937'

"I SAID IT WITH MUSIC" - by BING CROSBY

I've made a lot of trips in my day but I'll never forget the day Al Rinker and I drove from Spokane to Los Angeles.

Spokane, in the State of Washington, is my home town. My father ran a pickle factory there and he had to sell plenty of pickles to keep seven young Crosbys in shoes. Right in the middle of that row of children, with three older and three younger, came Harry - that's me.

I had started, at 17, to try to be a lawyer, I had switched my ambitions to being a really great baseball player until I cut myself with an axe just below each knee while lumbering one summer. I had played the drums in a band, formed by my pal Al Rinker and me, in which not one of the boys could read a note of music. We listened to gramophone records and then copied them by ear. Yet we had plenty of engagements, and at one tea garden where we played a local theatre manager offered me a trial. I took Al as my accompanist and we were busy all that season.

Then I had to decide. Back to college and law books - or not. I didn't want to go back. I checked up with one lawyer I knew and found he was averaging £6 a week. That settled it. I could make £8 a week singing.

And that brings me to that drive to Los Angeles. Al and I decided to try our luck there - and my mother bought us the car. It must have been the grandmother of all cars. We had no headlights so we had to drive only in daylight.

Bumping and spluttering up the steep winding road from the San Fernando Valley to the hills at the back of Hollywood, the old car gave it all up. So we ignominiously made the last few miles on foot, and then caught a street car.

We stayed with Al's sister and it was she who got us a job in a cafe band. I made £6-10s. a week. Then one day we went to an audition and were engaged - at £40 a week each - with Paul Whiteman and his Band. We toured with Whiteman and if he hadn't gone back to Hollywood to make a film "The King of Jazz" I might be with him now. When the film was made Al and I decided we liked California and pictues too much to leave. We found work with a dance band and stayed. Then I met Dixie Lee and getting her interested enough to marry me was the most serious job I ever tackled. It cured me of being a playboy, and spending every penny I made having a good time. That really started getting me ~~everywhere~~. That - and my elder brother, Everett, who took charge of my business affairs when I was making a lot of money and yet was broke, in debt, and hopelessly involved in contracts. It cost Everett £7,000 to get me out of my difficulties, so he was determined to make a real commercial success of me. He got me a 21 weeks' radio contract and fortunately I clicked right away. As soon as I was free I hurried back to Hollywood and married Dixie Lee. That was in 1930.

Still I was a long way from being a film star. I did radio, gramophone records, personal appearances, and a few short films for Mack Sennett. Then in 1932 came the turning point. Paramount decided to make a picture featuring radio stars. There were some obvious ones they had to have, like Kate Smith, Arthur Tracy, Burns and Allen and the Boswell Sisters. Then they had a lot of argument over another less obvious one. A guy called Crosby. Some executive wanted him. Others said,"He's slipping." But I'm a lucky guy and I got the job. The public seemed to like that picture and I signed a contract.

I'm an old Californian family man now, with three kids and a home out on Toluca Lake about 20 minutes from the studio. All my work is done in Hollywood. I play golf and I like horse racing and fishing. I've no money senses but Everett made a limited company out of me and things seem to go all right. I know I could retire now with plenty for the rest of my life. But who wants to do that? I like to sing. If I wasn't paid for it I'd do it anyway for my own amusement.

I'M HAPPY AND AS LONG AS PARAMOUNT-AND YOU-WANT ME I'LL STICK AROUND.

AROUND THE WORLD WITH "BING"

news and views from
ISRAEL...AUSTRALIA...CANADA....
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA...
BRITAIN...EIRE.....

ISRAEL..Samuel Sternberg - Nov 19th.67

I assume that right today you will be celebrating with Michael David Crampton of Leeds and the other Bing fans. I would love to hear how the meeting came out and I am sure the results could not be else but success - I was thinking to add some good words and thoughts on Michael - David like., As long as we have friends like him with spirit and resourcefulness we can held our flag up - But Reg Bristo did it much more better in his column in 'BING' which arrived these days. Thank you to him. I can see that 'BING' is improving steadily. This time I am pleased with the coloured sheets in the middle and the photos of Bing which reproduced better than ever. The picture GOING MY WAY stirred in me many nostalgic memories as Bing was always one of the perfectest actors to play with the youngsters in a picture and I have a feeling in real life too.

I am glad the little storm Fred Reynolds stirred up is now over and the sun will be shining again in the ICC skies. I could only enjoy his CASE FOR THE DEFENCE by itself. But my heart is with Mr Les Gaylor no matter who is indeed right. It occupied so much of my attention I had to call my reaction. Besides quite a task to finish this 'BING' on first run this time - Thank you so much for Bing's address a good occasion to drop him a card - So for this today hope you and yours are fine and well for the coming new year. May I add good wishes to a same fruitful year to you, ICC and everyone of Bing's fans throughout the world.....Sam.

AUSTRALIA..John Purches.

Continueing the round of discussion on which member of the ICC has the earliest letter from Bing - John has recently sent a copy of a letter he recieved from the maestro way back in 1934 - CAN ANY MEMBER BEAT THIS ONE?

BING CROSBY NEW YORK APRIL 3, 1934

Mr John A Purches
14 Hargrave Str
Semaphore
South Australia

Dear Mr Purches.

Bing has received your nice letter of recent date and he has requested me to write thanking you for your interest.

Yes, Bing did make the record mentioned in your letter. Bing only hopes his future efforts will warrent your attention and approval.

Thanking you again, I am,

Cordially yours,

signed Marie B. Kelly

MBK SEC'TY TO BING CROSBY

cont on page10

continueing
AROUND THE WORLD WITH BING

U.S.A. Don Denney writes from SPOKANE, WASHINGTON
Don writes to enclose a number of interesting press clippings cleaned mainly from the Spokane Daily Chronicle - dates 26-June-1967 - Oct-1967 - Febuary 4-1967

BING AND THE BOOSTERS (photo enclosed)
Four members of the HILLYARD BOOSTERS CLUB are pictured here with Bing Crosby at his home in Hillsborough, Calif., 18 miles south of San Francisco. Left to right they are, Kenneth Olson, Ralph Heaton, Gary Malek and Larry Richard, all Rogers High School students. They visited the entertainer en route home from the Rose Bowl classic last month. The quartet won the trip because of outstanding service to football.

AT 'A PARTY WITH SHIRLEY'
BING CROSBY and his wife Kathy stand in receiving line Monday night with congressional candidate SHIRLEY TEMPLE BLACK and her three children, Susan, left, Charles and Lori, centre. Occasion was a $100-a-plate fund raiser. (AP wirephoto)

EARLY DAY CROSBY HOME RESTORED AS COAST MUSEUM
When they mention "Crosby" in Tumwater, a town south of Olympia, they won't be talking about Bing. Rather they probably will be discussing Clanrick Crosby who led the Crosby clan over the old Oregon trail with the Simons party, or Bing's grandfather, Nathaniel Crosby 111, whose Tumwater home is now a Pioneer Memorial Museum, owned and restored by the Olympia chapter of the Daughters of the Pioneers of Washington. You can't belong to that organisation which meets regularly in the Crosby house, unless your ancestors arrived in Washington territory prior to 1870.

The Crosby family is identified as closely with Tumwater, at the end of the Oregon Trail, as Harry Lillis (Bing(Crosby, and his brothers, Larry, Robert, E. J. (Ted) Crosby E14709 Broadway, and the late Everett, are tied to Spokane and the Gonzaga district. The great-grandfather of the Spokane Crosby brothers, Nathaniel 11, was a sea captain. Back in 1847 he was commisioned to haul much needed supplies around the Horn to the starving emigrants who had crossed the Oregon Trail and settled in the Pacific Northwest. He arrived at the mouth of the Columbia River later that year and was greatly impressed with this country. Returning to the Atlantic Coast he sang the praises of the Oregon Territory, convincing the clan that it should pull up stakes and move westward. Then he went back to sea, but his tale of wonders to be found at the end of the Oregon Trail set ffire to the interest of the rest of the tribe. With Clanrick in charge, the Crosby's including.12 year old Nathaniel 111 and the patriarch, Nathaniel Sn., joined the Simons party to make the overland journey. Arriving eventually in Tumwater, Clanrick established a grist mill and later a saw mill on the DeChutes River Falls. When Nathaniel 11 was 20 years old he built a two storey home for his bride Cordelia Smith. That is the house the Daughters of the Pioneers through the cooperation of Bing Crosby and Adolf and Peter Schmidt acquired as a meeting house and museum.

This is not a Crosby memorial, but a memorial to all of our early pioneers, Mrs Truman Schmidt, the chapter president explained. Only two pieces of furniture are identified as being original furnishings of the Crosby house - a small upholstered rocker and a table and a leather bound document on the geneology of the Crosby family, presented to the Daughters of the Pioneers by Bob Crosby. Walking through the Crosby home is like taking a journey into the past. Visitors are welcome any Thursday, the day the Daughters of the Pioneers hold open house.

(Don also enclosed with the above most interesting article a full page of photos of the Crosby home and contents including a rare photo of Capt Nathaniel Crosby 11, photo of the house etc and this is being framed for the Crosby Room at North Shields)

ENGLAND...Earls Court - London.
Well worth a mention in these columns we feel is the interesting notepaper used by Miss Susan Lake when she recently wrote to enrol in the ICC - the heading in red says THE SAINT CLUB and this is followed by a caricture of "The Saint" himself - seems you can't keep Simon Templer down - jolly good show too Susan and you must tell us more about the association.

ISRAEL..Samuel Sternberg - Dec 18.1967
I must admit our National Broadcaster is surprising me ever since. After a long while of neglecting Bing's dear voice and songs and clear and definate change have come over them and all for good. A general trend for playing old favourites is now on the air and I wish it would last contrasting all the cacaphony we have to swallow down. No wonder Bing has his place here at the top - On a half hour programme which was aired here on 17-12-67 dedicated to all the top singers in the world, including Frank Sinatra, the programme opened with a song by Bing which came unannounced but no-one could probably mistake the great masters voice and style - during the programme no less than four songs were by Bing including the title and final one and also MACNAMARA'S BAND with the narrator pointing out that Bing's voice almost have notchanged over the years- a miracle by itsleff - As I said before the programme ended with a song by Bing without even mentioning its titles - and I could only get some words like "I HAVE A GREEN HOUSE,I LOVE THE HOUSE..... can any of the members check the source and the song these words come from. Sam.

.....ref Sam's closing query - this might have been a problem Sam,but fortunately you enclosed the very song on the piece of tape with your letter - it is DEAR HEARTS AND GENTLE PEOPLE which Bing recorded in October 1949 - thanks to Sam I am probably the only collector in this country to have this item on tape with the intro in Hebrew....oh my,.....some collectors get all the breaks...

EIRE....George O' Reilly writes from Dublin. 14-Nov-67
I am extremely busy these days but I hope to be in closer contact with the Circle next year - in the meantime may I extend to you and your family and all the members of the ICC sincerest good wishes for the New Year.

CANADA...Jean Paul Frereault writes from Port of Quebec
Jean Paul has sent a very good cross section of Canadian news for this issue and especially enjoyed is the following press cutting.

DER BINGLE - CBC Times
Bing Crosby has been visiting Canada ever since he was a boy and over the years he has collected a good many friends here - quite apart from his large number of Canadian fans. One of Crosby's recent trips was made in October 1965 when he spent a long weekend with his old friend Charlie Conacher, the forner Maple Leaf hockey star. Their friendship goes backa long way, to the late '20s. While he was staying with Conacher, Bing went out in the Ontario countryside for some pheasant shooting and later attended Woodbine race-track for the Canadian championship, where he caught up with another old friend, Jockey Johnny Longden (riding the Canadian bred GEORGE ROYAL) In the course of a casual conversation with Fletcher Markle for TELESCOPE, Bing had a lot to say about his association with Canada. High up among all the sports activities Bing enjoys is horse racing, which is also a part of his close relationship with Canada. Along with Max Bell the Calgary publisher and Frank McMahon the Vancouver iolman. he is part owner of the Irish Derby winner MEADOW COURT.

On TELESCOPE this week Bing talks to Fletcher Markle about his trips to Canada and his career in clubs, radio, and films. "We lived in the State of Washington in Spokane," says Bing "and my father used to take me fishing up the trail, British Columbia, and Penticton, and that's when I first got to know Canada and Canadians

continued on page 12

AROUND THE WORLD WITH BING
=======continued==========

DER BINGLE cont'

....."then I got into show business and I was on tour a lot and played Vancouver, Toronto, Montreal. I never played Quebec, but in later years through my interest in hunting and fishing, I was able to spend some time in Quebec, salmon fishing. I visited Montreal many times to play golf, exhibition matches at a club in the Laurentines. I've played golf in Vancouver and Baseball in Medicine Hat, that's going back to when I was in college. Then I went to Jasper Park to make the film THE EMPEROR WALTZ, spent two delightful months up there and participated in the Jasper Park Totem Pole Tournament a couple of times, won it once and came second once". Peter Kelly, producer of TELESCOPE directed this edition. Thom Benson is the executive producer.

Also received from Jean Paul is a very impressive listing of all the albums he was able to purchase in December of last year - many of the albums listed feature only odd tracks by Bing, but he did include the great Columbia set CL2-43 but as this is dealt with at great lenth by IAN BELL in a special feature later, we'll not repeat the info here- perhaps the most interesting album mentioned by Jean Paul is an EPIC album L2N-6064 titled THOSE WONDERFUL GUYS though it only features one Bing track, the wonderful SNUGGLED ON YOUR SHOULDER, it does include some other great favourites like RUDY VALLEY'S Brother Can You Spare A Dime...AL JOLSON'S Hallelujah I'm A Bum....and NELSON EDDY'S Little Work A Day World, among a host of great nostalgic records of the past

U.S.A. Frank Steiner writes from PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA
Normally I'M the sort of chap who's satisfied to sit back and enjoy seeing other people embroil themselves in comedic auguments, and I seldom if ever allow myself to become involved. However in the current issue of "BING" I find three areas into which I wish to inject myself.

First; on page 32 quite close to the bottom of the page I read, quote; "That legendary PARAMOUNT man FRANK STEINER etc etc etc" Now, as you know I was born in England had most of my schooling there and left there with a fair knowledge of the English dictionnary, therefore.I hauled out my copy of the said dictionary to see if there was now a new definition of "Legendary", but no it still defined the word as being; Fabulous and Mythical, with a further definition of Ficticious being placed on Fabulous. Now Frank, you will get yourself quite an augument over me being fabulous, and I think it is fairly obvious that I am not a myth even though I have been told that I am not allthere . That leaves Ficticious, and that probably might be correct because of my procrastination in not sending you my article which I promised, the article being WORKING WITH BING a collection of anecdotes and recollections while working with Mr B over many years. With fictic-ious hanging over my head I shall of course hasten the completion of said article and you will be receiving it in due course.

The second area which has caught my attention was the article CASE FOR THE DEFENCE by Fred Reynolds. I do not wish to comment on his statements in this and his previous article, but merely wish to compliment him on his apparent knowledge of the contents of the English Dictionary and his use of the words from said Tome, But I would like, if I may, through your columns, to admonish him That in reflecting is esoteric meditations, adherance to enunciative, well articulated catagorical utterances is reccommended. In the promulgation of his conceptions recumbancy upon double entendre and verbose embellishments increase incomprehensibility. Ostentation fustian and bombast are to be shunned in favour of a predilection for conciseness and condensation, free from officiency, in other words talk plainly.

To prove that I have read "BING" from cover to cover, I now refer you to page 15 and the paragraph which starts "THE ROAD TO....." and which refers to quote: "Picture stealing". I presume the writer means Scene stealing. I intend to cover this partially in my forthcoming article, it might prove to be quite a shock

to him.

Today (Nov28-67) the NBC Television had a two hour tibute to Bob Hope, on his 30 years with them. I have made a recording of this programme sans the many commerials. It is most interesting because of film clips of Bing and Bob in some of their 'Road' films, and also quite a lenthy interview with Bing with Bob as the subject. I will be sending this (as has been my custom) to Johnny Jones in Northern Ireland in the very near future, and I am sure he will follow HIS usual custom in relaying to you for your deectation.

SAMUEL STERNBERG - Israel - 22-12-67
ROBIN AND THE SEVEN HOODS is now showing in Jaffa (very near to Tel Aviv) Bing is billed as ALLEN A. DALE and there's a very good painting of Bing in the front of the box office - Critics only mention Bing is in it. Bing is also mentioned in December's FILM IN REVIEW for his survival power among other actors casted in 1966.

ENGLAND - W H Brookes writes from Rotherham Yorkshire
I met Bing on one of his recent visits to the St Leger at Doncaster and it was quite a job to get near him as he was constantly surrounded by a huge crowd. I tried to get a photo taken with him and he agreed. Mrs Crosby tried to take the photo for us but all she got was the sky with the crowd - My collection of Bing records numbers around 275 and I was very pleased to read in the Daily Mirror about you and the club which I very much want to join.

CANADA - Jean Paul Frereault-6-1-1968
I have just received a 12" LP titled WHAT CHILD IS THIS, sung by THE BONAVENTURE CHOIR - "Joyful Carols Of Christmas" Narrated by BING CROSBY - Tribute record label, distributed only by the World Library of Sacred Music - No WLSM-25-M also available in stereo WLSM-26-S. Bing narrates all the tracks and the sleeve notes say;

> On this record the worthy American idol Bing Crosby foregoes his more famous singing talent to provide continuity to the carols through his narration of the original story of Christmas as told in the New Testament. Luke. chapter 2, verse 4.

I'm also expecting in a few days the first LP of the same label which is the Bible story of Christmas on WLSM-5 - I'm getting in touch with this company to find out if they have any further Bing Crosby albums and will pass this news on to the ICC.

OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO END OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO
****
OOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO

LONDON - ENGLAND "STAR LETTER"

21 - December - 1967;, Ian D. Bell, writes-;

covering the COLUMBIA HALL OF FAME TWO-ALBUM-SET

Thanks for the latest issue of "BING" which was waiting for me upon my return from a two month round-world business trip; it was during this trip that I managed to pick up a double album of 12" LP's of early Crosby material. However while in Australia I found two or three record stores which had many Crosby LP's and I spent a small fortune picking up many of them, but upon my arrival in Los Angeles I was recommended to visit a certain record store where I was assured they have a large collection of old 78's..... Ian continues on page 14

IAN D. BELL continues "STAR LETTE"

==========CROSBY'S EARLY GEMS RELEASED ON NEW COLUMBIA=====
==========TWO ALBUM PACKAGE==========

.....It was at this store that I picked up an album which is the first issue of Columbia in their new HALL OF FAME series, Number C2L 43. This double album is a must for collectors, especially if, like myself, the collectors were not around in the early 30's to pick up these records when they were first issued. For the interest of fellow members I list hereunder all the tracks on these two LP's, but first a few notes about the presentation of the album itself, which is called.

BING CROSBY IN HOLLYWOOD - 1930 - 1934

On the front cover there are 7 photographs of various scenes from the early Crosby films between 1930 and 1934, and inside the double jacket there are other scenes from these films, mostly shot during the sequences in which the songs on the records were sung. In addition there is a full cover of biographic notes by Miles Kreuger penned on 11, August 1967, who also writes a brief summary of the various films. Columbia claim that the album contains, without exception, every record Bing made commercially from the films in which he appeared, from his screen debut in the KING OF JAZZ in 1930, to his screen stardom in SHE LOVES ME NOT. Columbia also go on to say. "It is fitting that this debut album of Columbia's HALL OF FAME series be devoted to a man who has become in his own lifetime the very quintessence of American popular music. The KING OF JAZZ records are from the collection of Howard Levine and here is a list of the titles on the album along with the orchestras, recording dates.

THE KING OF JAZZ - Universal - 1930

HAPPY FEET==========Paul Whiteman/Rhythm Boys==========10/2/30
BENCH IN THE PARK==========Paul Whiteman/Brox Sisters/Rhythm Boys=23/2/30
BENCH IN THE PARK==========Rhythm Boys only==========23/5/30
IT HAPPENED IN MONTEREY==========Paul Whiteman/Johnny Fulton-vocal======21/3/30
I LIKE TO DO THINGS FOR YOU==========Paul Whiteman/Rhythm Boys==========23/3/30
RAGAMUFFIN ROMEO==========Paul Whiteman/Jeannie Lang-vocal=======22/3/30
*THE BLUEBIRDS AND THE BLACKBIRDS=======Rhythm Boys==========10/4/29
SONG OF THE DAWN==========Paul Whiteman/Bing/King of Jazz chorus=21/3/30

THE BIG BROADCAST - Paramount 1932

From this point on, all feature Bing as main vocalist;

*DINAH==========with MILLS BROTHERS==========16/12/31
PLEASE==========Anson Weeks==========16/9/32
HERE LIES LOVE==========orchestral acc'==========14/10/32

COLLEGE HUMOR - Parmount 1933

LEARN TO CROON==========Jimmie Grier==========13/6/33
MOONSTRUCK==========" "==========7/6/33
DOWN THE OLD OX ROAD==========" "==========16/6/33

TOO MUCH HARMONY - Parmount 1933

THANKS==========Jimmie Grier==========27/8/33
THE DAY YOU CAME ALONG==========" "=========="
I GUESS IT HAD TO BE THAT WAY==========" "=========="
BLACK MOONLIGHT==========" "=========="

GOING HOLLYWOOD - MGM 1933

*JUST AN ECHO IN THE VALLEY	orchestral acc'	4/11/32
BEAUTIFUL GIRL	Lennie Hayton	27/9/33
AFTER SUNDOWN	" "	"
WE'LL MAKE HAY WHILE THE SUN SHINES	" "	22/10/33
TEMPTATION	" "	"
OUR BIG LOVE SCENE	" "	"

WE'RE NOT DRESSING - Paramount 1934

LOVE THY NEIGHBOR	Nat Finston's Paramount Orchestra	25/2/34
ONCE IN A BLUE MOON	"	"
GOOD NIGHT LOVELY LITTLE LADY	"	"
MAY I?	"	"
SHE REMINDS ME OF YOU	Jimmy Grier	13/3/34

SHE LOVES ME NOT - Paramount 1934

I'M HUMMIN', I'M WHISTLING', I'M SINGING	Irving Aaronson's Commanders	5/7/34
LOVE IN BLOOM	"	"
STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER	"	"

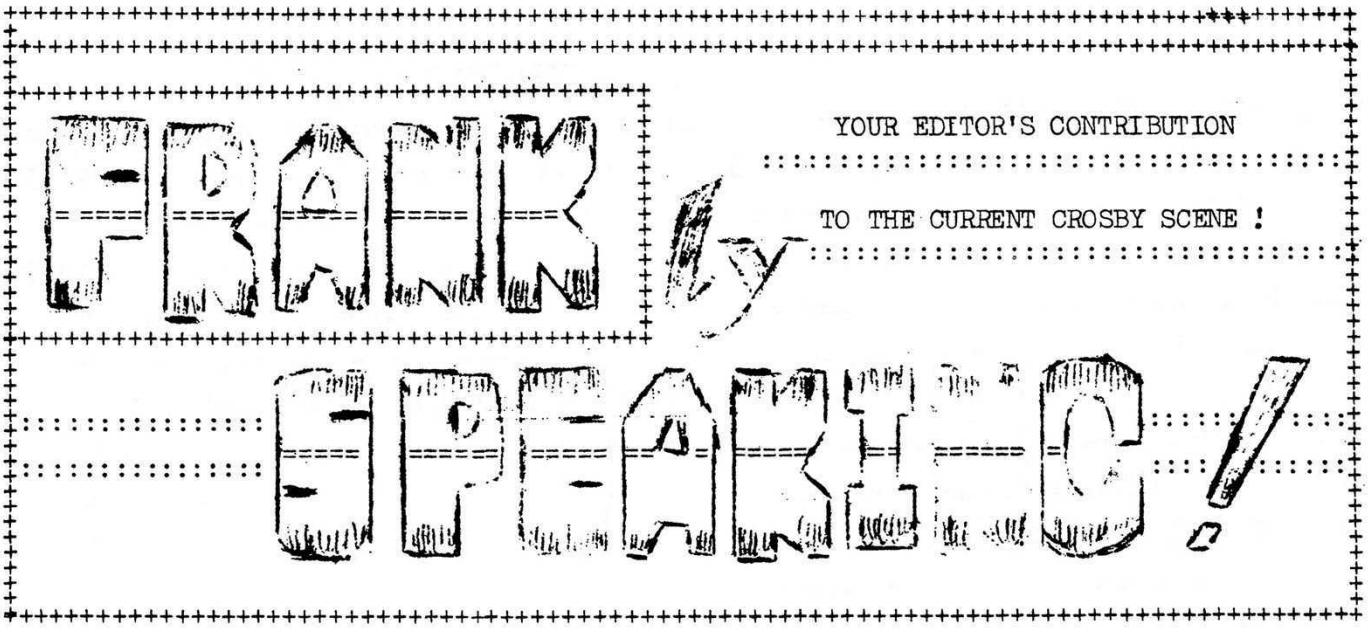
*these songs were standards recorded by Bing prior to the production of the films into which they were interpolated

I would suggest that if anybody with any influence in the record industry could exert any pressure on Columbia to release this album in the U.K. assuming that this has not already been done, the address given on the album is as follows.

COLUMBIA RECORDS/CBS Inc, 51 W, 52 Street, New York, N.Y., USA

While in the States I read in one of their national magazines of an interview with DEAN MARTIN in which he paid the very highest tribute to Bing in saying that Bing taught, DEAN, FRANK SINATRA and PERRY COMO to sing - A great compliment indeed; It was interesting to see how Bing got to him - Whenever a Crosby film was in town he used to spend a whole day seeing it over and over again and then go into a local bar and sing a song in the Crosby style. It seems to have the same pattern. - I look forward to the next "BING" and hope the above album will soon be available to all Crosby collectors.

Our sincere thanks to Ian for taking so much trouble to list the above album so carefully and so informatively for readers of this magazine - Ian and other collectors will be very pleased to learn that one of the record industries biggest spies in the U.K. has just passed on the valuable news that this two album set is scheduled for release in England in APRIL - a big thankyou to KEN "SPYSIE" Mc MANUS - the album according to Kennsington will be identical to the USA issue with the full treatment production-wise, and at the same time much less costly - I know members like my good friend JACK SHAW, long a MAY I addict will be rushing out to the shops toget this first ever album release of so many real Crosby Classics from what is without doubt the classic Crosby favourite vocal period



==== A ROUND-UP FROM THE EDITORIAL CHAIR ==========

Hello members,

Hope you're enjoying the current issue and at the time of writing I'd like to extend a big thank you to all of this issues contributers with a special word to FRED REYNOLDS, ALAN LURIE, RON BOSLEY, REG BRISTO, and BERT DAY who all typed and prepared their own stencils and articles for this edition - with this kind of action going your overworked editor would appear to be able to overcome the tremendous pressures that overburdon me these days - I certainly hope this much appreciated help can continue - and a further point I'd like to make at this time is the vast mailbag that comes in from both the ICC and our other promotion The 1930's RECORD SOCIETY, in the latter case, I don't encourage too much mail because the man behind the 30's group is REG BRISTO, but I do get quite a mailbag all the same, and this, coupled with the ICC which does occupy all of, my free time means it's quite a headache to keep ahead all the time - to give you one small little example - I've just been checking up on how far I am behind with replies to overseas correspondents and I find I have 18 letters to reply too - not a lot I k now, but coupled with the other chores, it's a sizable task - and one thing that would be really appreciated in the case of UK correspondents is the enclosure of a stamped addressed envelope - Let me assure all correspondents though that whilst the time is not always available to reply to your valued letters they are none-the-less very much appreciated and all recent news and views is always filed to the magazine pages.

It's always a special thrill to receive a phone from a member and my only worry is that I'm away from home so often these days and the expense of a long distance call can so often be wasted - for the benefit of members who may want to ring up to clear up a point, please don't ring before 11pm in the evening, I usually arrive home from the cinema Mon to Sat about that time, so if you ring just after you can be sure of catching me in, and whilst on the subject of phoning, if you do ring - please don't ring to complain about the film - On Saturday evening Jan 13th the phone rang at 10.50pm and a voice at the other end rattled out a complaint about the 'load' he had just been to see at my cinema "Can you not get better films than that" - Well that night had been a particularly trying one for me - the teenagers, whose night, Saturday usually is at the Empire, Jarrow, had given us all a very trying night and at one point we actually had to put 8 girls out, yes girls. - on top of this we'd had a couple of snaps in the projection box, so yours truly was well and truly fagged out when I got home - I COULD HAVE CROWNED THAT VOICE WHEN IT OWNED UP TO BEING THE VOICE OF MY OLD BUDDY KEN Mc MANUS

who was speaking all the way from London - I really appreciated that call Ken and value your taking the time out to ring me - give our best to Babs and Pam.

A recent caller to our home was another pal of long standing MICHAEL CRAMPTON - Michael fresh from a National tour to triumph which took in visits to the homes of LESLIE GAYLOR in the Isle of Wight, BOB ROBERTS in Kent, RALPH HARDING in London and REG BRISTO in Cardiff- if we ever need an Ambassador, who better to fill the bill but the much travelled 'Mr C' - incidentally Mic el when you slept in Bob and Vera's"Crosby Room" down there in Kent I hope you noticed the sign above the bed which read "FRANK MURPHY SLEPT HERE" - cause he did, and he hopes too again when he accepts a long standing invite to visit with Bob and Vera during March of this year

When COLIN DUNNE of the DAILY MIRROR phoned me from Manchester recently to ask if he could travel up to interview me on the club little did realise the impact the subsequent article was going to cause,such-an avalanche of mail - following the appearance of the article (which you can read in this issue) I received over 40 letters from Bing fans allover the North of England and Ireland - now 40 may not seem a lot really, but your editor, (and I hope I don't sound too modest) has had quite a full share of publicity in the past few years - with appearances on TV both ITV and BBC - dozens of write-ups in the local press, and none of these have ever brought in more than half a dozen letters, you can appreciate therefore just how overwelmed I was at the responce to the Mirror article - apart from this I had so many of my Bingo members at the Empire ask if it was me in the Daily Mirror that I had to announce on the mike during that weeks session that it was yours truly and since then I have had many requests for particular Bing records from other admirers who come to play Bingo at the Empire - I had 4 requests for CARELESS HANDS and one for LOVE IN BLOOM for example and all requests have and are still being complied with - all in all a great plug for the club and I have used just a few of the letters in this issue. On the occasion of Colin Dunnes visit we had a great night as BILL BELL, JACK and LEAH SHAW and JOHN MAUGHAN came down to Lovaine Place and after the interview we all had a great night out - happy days thanks to Bing and the club - I should mention also that Colin Dunne is an old friend of the ICC through important contacts made via DON WOLLAND many years ago, and it's good to know we are filed with such useful sources.

Well, because of time pressures and the usual space ones, I intend to cut my feature down this time (thank heaven you'll be saying) but before I close I want to send special greetings to DON DENNY in Spokane, USA, JOHNNY JONES in Northern Ireland BOB ROBERTS in Kent, England,FRED ROMARY in New York, USA and FRANK STEINER in Palm Springs USA, for special favours which cannot go unacknowledged-many thanks to you and the other great Bing boosters we have with the ICC ranks, with greetings and thanks to LESLIE GAYLOR for the Record Mirror tip off, to JEAN PAUL FREREAULT for being the leading overseas correspondent, and to BRIAN PATTINSON of Dunstan in the North of England for a great photo page in this issue and also for helping to keep the club flag flying.

Best regards to you and your families,

Frank Murphy

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SPECIAL MEMO TO KEITH HYDE - AUSTRALIA

Hello Keith, We know you've been exceptionally busy over the holiday period and many thanks for the usual great calender which is being used to good effect in my office at work - we look forward to a speedy return to your usual great Australian news-service and AUSTRALIAN ROUND-UP which is missed by us all in the club.

ALAN LURIE & RON BOSLEY
present

THE BING CROSBY MOVIE FILE

"ROAD TO MOROCCO"

British 'U' Certificate — Original running time - 83 minutes

Original screenplay by Frank Butler and Don Hartman
Musical direction by Victor Young
Music adviser Arthur Franklin
Songs:- Lyrics by Johnny Burke
Music by James Van Heusen

"ROAD TO MOROCCO"
"AIN'T GOT A DIME TO MY NAME"
"CONSTANTLY"
"MOONLIGHT BECOMES YOU"

Dances staged by Paul Oscard
Sound recording by Earl Hayman and Walter Oberst
Director of photography.....William C. Mellor A.S.C.
Art direction Hans Dreier and Robert Usher
Special photographic effects...Gordon Jennings A.S.C.
Process photography Farciot Edouart A.S.C.
Edited by Irene Morra
Costumes Edith Head
Make-up artist Wally Westmore

Produced by PAUL JONES
Directed by DAVID BUTLER

A PARAMOUNT PICTURE - Production Number 1950
NEW YORK PREMIERE - Paramount Theatre, Nov 11th, 1942

CAST

Jeff Peters.....BING CROSBY
Turkey Johnson.....BOB HOPE
Princess Shalmar.....DOROTHY LAMOUR
Mullay Kasim.....ANTHONY QUINN
Mirhirmah.....DONA DRAKE
Ahmed Fey.....MIKHAIL RASUMNY
Hyder Khan.....VLADIMIR SOKOLOFF
Neb Jolla.....GEORGE GIVOT
Oso Bucco.....ANDREW TOMBES
Yusef.....LEON BELASCO
First Aide to Mullay Kasim.....JAMIEL HASSON
Second Aide to Mullay Kasim.....MONTE BLUE

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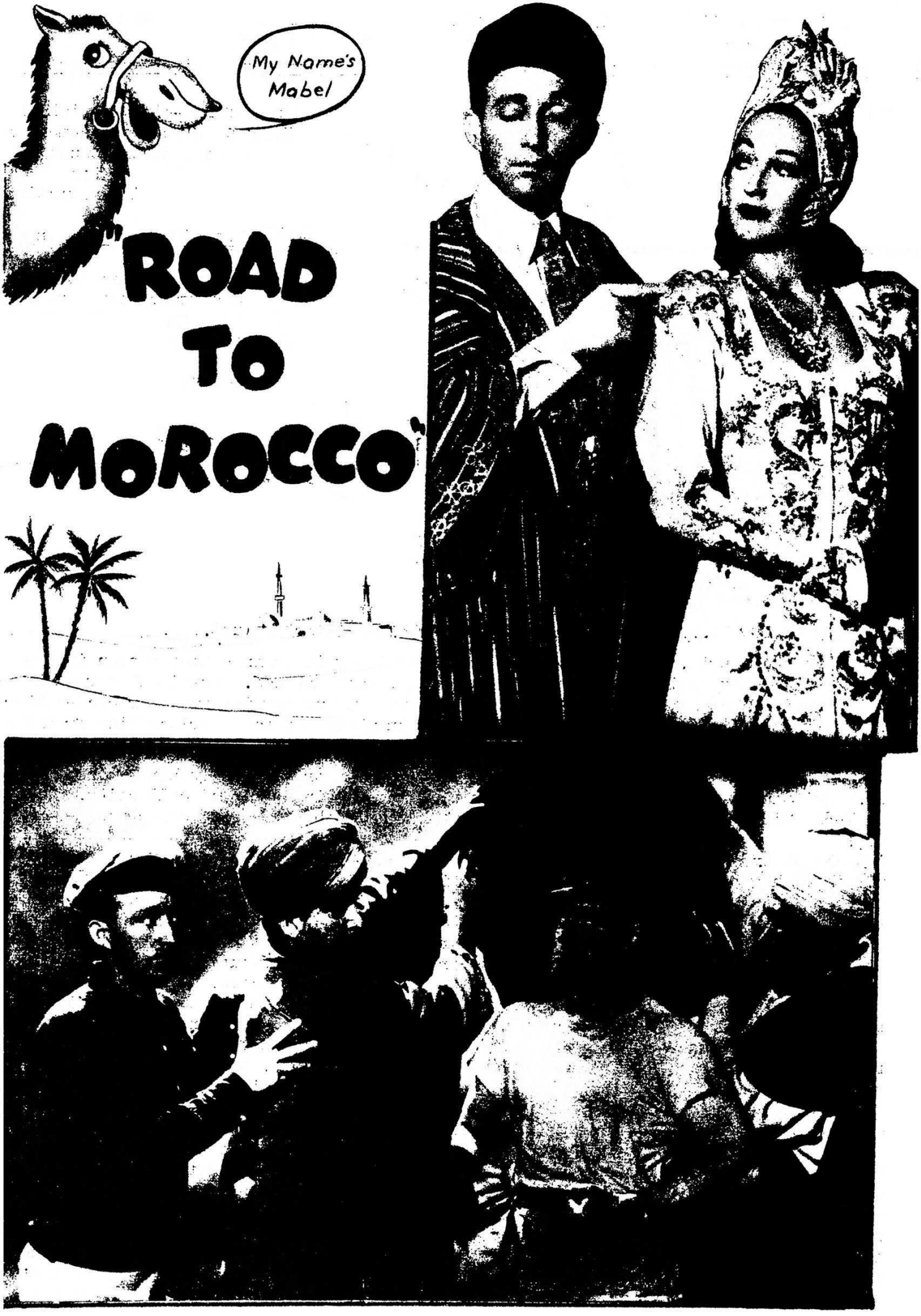
My Name's Mabel
ROAD TO MOROCCO

OH! THE PITY OF IT ALL.....and I have to confess to my biggest boob - in the record line - but all, I sincerely hope, in a good cause!

++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++ ++

T H E

But before going on with that - did you notice that comedian-compere got a severe touch of the Dean Martin's - with CARELESS HANDS! Big production number.
Des O'Connor, I mean

I remember that he is the only performer that I've heard "do" 'Now You Has Jazz" besides Bing.

However, to business...

+ The pity of it all..... to explain! as I surely must.....

+ I've many times said, and no doubt I shall say it again - what a boon it has proved to me to have joined the I.C.C. Many, many friends, postal and personal (as you will read later on apropos Leeds), a tremendous new impetus to record-collecting, new avenues to that end, a wealth of new knowledge of the peerless Bing from the real experts of Crosby Mania, and so on.....YET! ++

+ I can claim without fear of contradiction to have been transparently honest in these pages, admitting to astonishing, inexplicable, omissions in my record collection, now between 7-800 titles. I know some of my naivete has left the hierarchy speechless - well, almost!

+ Like almost everybody over the past 36 years, there has been a hiatus or two in my record-collecting. Losses and breakages in enforced moves, years spent abroad. Events which drove collecting into the background. Times indeed, when it just wasn't possible to get records - and to forestall the humorists I'd better add that I don't mean time spent in prison! But thanks to reissues, I've gone a tremendous way in the past few years in repairing some of the more glaring omissions.....YET!

+ Yet what? Just this - nobody, NOBODY, told me that the two-album set "HOW THE WEST WAS WON" is one of the finest recording projects with which Bing Crosby has been associated. Beyond all doubt.

+ Do not take the above too seriously, dear friends, for I'm certain everyone assumed that I had this wonderful set. But it leads me to the "good cause" referred to above. If any of my readers are, like I was since 1960, without this set, please, please order it immediately! I did, from a reputable shop, and received it new in eight days.

+ Of course, I knew of this recording. I realise too that it must have been rapturously received on issue, but I was a "lone-wolf" then, and in any case, was in Gibraltar from '58-62, and the "latest" album I ever bought there was "Home on the Range". Mention of the records has flitted across these pages from time to time, but truth to tell, I had formed the impression that this was some miscellaneous assortment, with little Bing on it. And I immensely dislike albums in which one has to put up with a rigmarole of other artists for a couple of tracks of Bing.

+ Then a series of pointers made me sit up, as the saying goes. The first of these was The Road to Liverpool 23 - as Les Phthyian would prefer to describe the Road to Bing Crosby - Part IV, which indicated that Bing's contribution to HOW THE WEST WAS WON was far

from fleeting. In fact, it seemed that Bing predominated. Secondly, I heard a rather cryptic remark at Leeds when RARE STYLE was being discussed: "Personally, I feel rather glad that Bing made Streets of Laredo, etc., after most of the tracks on this album." Now make of that what you will - I'm not saying I agree completely with what was probably meant. But I know what I made of it.

+ Thirdly, I heard 'Steets of Laredo" - and a lot more of the set whilst in Leeds. And that was more than sufficient. I knew I had (to get proverbial, or cliche-fied) to buy, borrow, beg, and pray that stealing wouldn't be necessary, to obtain this great collection. And now I have it. And I repeat, if you haven't - get it quickly, for goodness knows how much longer it will remain available. Not locally, but from either Decca or a reputable dealer, i.e. a shop that deals in other than the Top 20.

+ In case any doubts remain, let me tell you something of this 2-record set - while the years-long-possessors of it, turn wearily over the pages.

+ To be brief and succinct. IT HAS EVERY-THING. Great songs, performed in a paculiarly and delightfully traditional manner. Although many of them have been around over the years as popular songs, they sound different - and in most cases, have different lyrics which smack of the authentic, pioneer West. There are songs like the age-old "Pop Goes the Weazel", but with words like "Rip Goes the Engine" - the railroad. It has that old song that goes "I Called on my sweetheart, her name it was Brown" - again with entirely different words. It has beautiful songs, apart from Laredo, Red River Valley, the incredibly, profoundly, harmonious performance of the great Shenandoah, like Green Grow the Lilacs, Come to the Bower. It has, on times, a great orchestra. At other times it has almost virtuoso guitar - not to mention the true, nostalgic, wail of the cowboy's harmonica. It has a fine choir, it has narration and recitation (from Bing). There is a rare touch, even, of Spanish music, much to my liking. It has square-dances and you can see the log ranch-house, see the "Hick" band - nevertheless playing with rare style. It has comedy and philosophy. It is gloriously gay, it is starkly sombre. IT HAS BING AND ROSEMARY CLOONEY! Both in incredible form and voice, which perhaps tells all. I love Rosie, with her sweet yet piquant voice. Her bubbling gaiety when singing duets robusto with Bing.

+ There are ad. libs. by the dozen. There is one really delicious piece. In the song "Buffalo Gals", which turns out to be "The Dolly with a Hole in Her Stocking" and/or "Aintcha, Aintcha, Aintcha, Aintcha Comin' Out Tonight" when Bing is cajoling Rosie. While Rosie sings the lyric, Bing says "Would yer?" and follows it up with a deep-throated "Please" - if ever a word was turned into a caress, Bing did it here. Oh yes, now that Connee no longer seems to sing, I definitely love Rosie. I'd love her anyway.

+ As for "All Pewtrified" - well, you must hear it.

+ Now I have to play it every day, all four sides, for at least six months to make up for lost time. Do I sound enthusiastic about this set? With a little encouragement I could be!

+ Its too late to treat yourself to a Christmas present. But treat yourself you must. You must! I nearly forgot - Rosie sings "Careless Love" - and words finally fail me.

++

++++ I N T E R P R E T A T I O N ++++++++++

of a song, of course.

=======oOo==========

+ I've often talked about "feel" for a song as applied to Bing. He himself said he was a phraser, who tried to interpret the lyrics of a song in the way they were meant.

+ As I write, our Frankie Vaughan, whom I do NOT dislike, is providing us with a perfect illustration of an insensitive rendition of a song. You have probably noticed that he has, with some success, revived that lovely old Russ Morgan number "So Tired" - with a big beat. Bing alas, has never recorded this nice song, which may be a notable omission, so we can't make a direct comparison. But it takes little imagination to "hear" Bing sing it. Listen to Russ himself - the mood of the song is weariness, and that's how Russ sang it, and undoubtedly how Bing would, too.

+ I suppose if we told Bing he often sings with a resigned wistfulness, he would be liable to give us a Bronx cheer! Nevertheless, consciously or unconsciously, he does just that.

+ Our Frankie sings "So Tired" with a virility that is almost frightening. He belts it out as if dying to get on with the Olympic Marathon. There was another glaring example a few years ago when steel-tonsilled Frankie Laine belted out "Cool Water" as if the barren wastes - the theme of that song - were flowing with milk and honey - and he had had more than his share. Contrast Bing's seemingly tired resignation, eminently redolent of waterless weariness. But as I said, its a question of "feel" for a song, is it not?

(Cont. over

"FEEL" FOR A SONG (Cont.)

+ I am not suggesting that a singer should go the whole hog and act a song - as some of the girls endeavour to do. That is the other, absurd, end of the scale. And it could be embarrassing with some of the lyrics! But attention must be paid to the mood of the song, and the intentions of the composer.
+ Bing does this, always has and no doubt always will. By accident? If you believe that verily you will believe anything!

+ Incidentally, my copy of the WEST collection has serious pressing faults in two of the sides. Obviously, I must take this up with Decca. They showed up on the first playing - repeating or jumping - so it is not my stylus or equipment. This is, I feel, unusual in Decca records. They will almost certainly ask me to return it for examination. The problem then will be: How can I part with it, even for a couple of weeks?

+ Apart from my momentous encounters at Leeds last November, a week or so before that I had the very real pleasure of spending an evening at the home of FRED REYNOLDS. And despite his best efforts, I can assure those who do not know Mr. Reynolds - his fans are non-existent. As if we didn't know.

+ The visit was preceded by a hair-raising car ride through Birmingham's rush-hour traffic - and in this respect at least it lives up to its title of The Second City. After continually "braking" in a sort of reflex action, I gave up and very properly left the driving to Fred. And we got to Yardley not only in one piece, but in excellent time.

+ That Fred is one of the remarkable Road team I'm sure everyone knows. And I saw some of the "manuscript" notes that lie behind this tremendous publication. Not to mention a fabulous collection - all fully documented, forsooth. His walls are tastefully adorned with pictures of himself - and Mrs. Fred - shaking hands with the Maestro. But as is, perhaps, inevitable, we spent so much time yarning that when it was time to depart we'd hardly played a record! And here, to be perfectly honest, when I mentioned to Fred that I hadn't heard "How The West Was Won" (not then, I hadn't) Fred did remark that it was one of his favourite albums. So I suppose that was another pointer.
+ To carry on with the "honesty" business, it is safe to say that Fred, as his sometimes angled shafts in these pages illustrate, has no particular bent for frivolities. One gets the feeling, when with Fred, that you either know your Croz - or you don't. I'm still wondering how I made out!

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==== IT WAS A MILESTONE, ANYWAY ====

--------oOo-------

+ Well, the Hallmark issue turned out to be a thumping disappointment - as quite a few of the knowing ones assured us it would.

+ The identical record that was issued on Realm Classics two years ago. The same cover - even a change of cover might have tempted us to get yet another spare of these vintage tracks. The same old familiar notes on the reverse. There were those of us who, against all hope, kept our fingers crossed that perhaps a "new" track or two would have been substituted.

+ The milstone is, of course, that this is the cheapest label yet for a 12-inch album of Bing.

+ C.B.S. have obviously rushed out this project, belatedly, to try and grab some of the phenomenal success being enjoyed by the E.M.I. licensed M.F.P. (Music For Pleasure) 12/6d L.P.'s. These have featured some really glorious reissues. But I can't see Hallmark making a dent on M.F.P. with the tired set of records in the first issue.

+ I once suggested to M.F.P. that they should be able to lay their hands on some early Bing. Their reply was to the effect that a Crosby issue wasn't out of the question - but there were no immediate plans. I imagine that M.F.P., who have access to E.M.I. vaults, would therefore have access to the Columbia 78 issues - as well as the odd one on H.M.V. Especially in view of the English and American Decca break-up. Surely something new and exciting must come along.
+ I suppose you know that a recent M.F.P. issue featured Venuti, Dorsey and Lang - called "The Sound That Swung the 30's".

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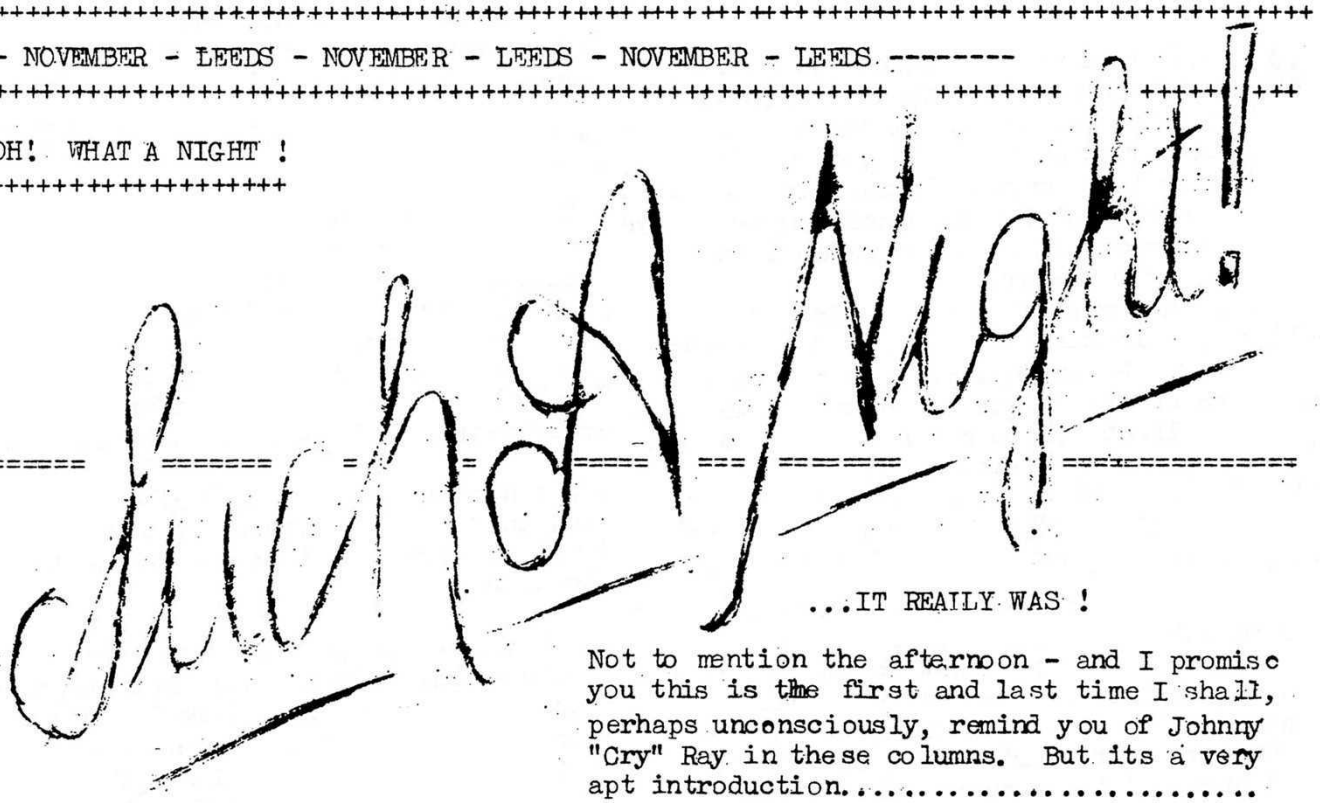
+ Perhaps the most remarkable thing about the RARE STYLE album was that 41 years after Bing first committed his voice to wax dealers all over this country were being pestered for this new album from 1st November onwards.

LEEDS - NOVEMBER - LEEDS - NOVEMBER - LEEDS - NOVEMBER - LEEDS --------

OH! WHAT A NIGHT !



...IT REAILY WAS !

Not to mention the afternoon - and I promise you this is the first and last time I shall, perhaps unconsciously, remind you of Johnny "Cry" Ray in these columns. But its a very apt introduction.....

= Dedication, by Golly! I'm certain that if "Blue of the Night" had been played continuously, all day and night, no-one present would have demurred in any way, or even raised an eyebrow! Actually that didn't happen, for it was records and tapes galore. A spirit and atmosphere which suited me down to the ground. To coin a phrase, it was precisely my cup of tea.

= Naturally, its the I.C.C. meeting/party in Leeds at the Chez-Michael, or the Casa Crampton would be more alliteratively apt - and in case Mrs. Crampton's eye should alight on this I hasten to add it means only the House of Michael Crampton. (Mrs. Crampton, Snr. that is, for as yet there is no Mrs. Crampton Junior.) I wouldn't like to draw one of those "old-fashioned Yorkshire" looks from Mrs. C! I know the meeting will be fully reported elsewhere in this issue, but as it was my first-ever attendance at such a gathering I can hardly let the occasion pass without comment.

= As I indicated earlier, however, I would prefer to describe it as a party rather than a meeting, although Michael strove manfully to adhere to a planned agenda. In fact, it was a rattling good party at that! Quite momentous for yours truly to fit faces and personalities to so many who had hitherto been postal or magazine friends.

= There were some notable absentees, naturally, in view of the distance some are away, and indeed, because of the time of the year. Even so, they journeyed from Newcastle, Liverpool, Wigan, Manchester, Hull, Keighley, London - and of course, Cardiff. The guests, too, have probably been listed on another page, but in any case, it would be quite invidious for me to start dealing in names.

+ But it was tremendous to meet so many, - soft-spoken, painfully sincere Mr. A., jovial ever-smiling Mr. B, and non-stop, happy chatterbox Mr. C. But if I carry on like this the canny ones will take no time at all in fitting my descriptions to the actual names! That wouldn't matter unduly, for none of my impressions were remotely libellous - indeed, throughout the pleasure was entirely mine.

= That everyone journeyed through a wretched foggy day speaks volumes for either their devotion to the Crosby cause, or the Crampton hospitality. Probably both. Both are entirely excellent reasons.

+ I can - I must, may one exception to the no-name rule, however, in respect of a man who was not, in fact, physically present at the party though he made his delightful presence felt. These I.C.C. parties, I gather, now follow what experience has shown to be an excellent formula. Undoubtedly one of the high-spots of this formula is the "Request Spot" for records chosen by guests.

"SUCH A NIGHT" Cont.

ichael ascertained in advance the requested cords and an hour-long tape was produced h not only gave us the pleasure of hearing records played, but also gave us the rtunity to hear that incredibly courag- compere, Mick Drury, whose humourous and omments indeed made the request spot a mme to remember.

is not pre-eminently a Crosby ctor - in his own words, he has a mini- collection. Nevertheless, he has a vast knowledge of the Maestro and most of the people who collect Bing's records. His production and compering of this lengthy tape put Radio 1, 2, 3 and however many there are to shame, for my money. Not much of a recommendation these days? Well, I meant well.

= You have read of Mick before in these pages in connection with his tape-recording activities and there is no doubt about his expertise in this field. Actually, Michael Crampton and I called on him at 10.45 Saturday preceding the party-day, yet this untimely visit appeared to cause no undue concern. I got the impression that Leeds is almost Bohemian in its disregard of time.

= Meeting Mick was a privilege for me.

Oh yes - the tapes from overseas. If, ear reader, you are ever invited to send a pe of greetings to an I.C.C. gathering, ease make it as professional as you can! tapes we heard - including the commercial ere first class. A philosophical appraisal Israel, a highly interesting and musical rt from Australia - during which we heard d that number that has intrigued us in country, "Its Crosby - Who Else Could It This was, apparently, a No. 1 hit Under" some years ago. And a very good, tuneful, song it is - indeed, Keith Hyde concluded his message by playing this number again himself on the organ. Really first class. There was a really fantastic tape from Eddie Rice in the U.S., complete with musical maestro himself, John Scott Trotter. I'm sure this feature is fully dealt with elsewhere in this issue. Ralph Harding weighed in from London, our fellow Editorial colleague, with some tantalising may or may not be items of news. Our other U.S. correspondent, Fred Romary, also presented some excellent material in the form of a tape T.V. interview with Bing and Kathy on their Tenth wedding anniversary. On this tape it was intriuging to hear the various guesses of just how many copies "White Christmas" has sold! Even Bing himself seemed to have no idea of the real figure. They should pay more attention to Leslie Gaylor's fact-ful olumns.

= Yet another absorbing message came from Frank Steiner in America - California to be exact. Frank is our "special" film man - and on a personal note, it was a thrill to hear my name coming from a tape from such a source

= This feature again, is highly original, and presented by all the contributors in a thoroughly stylish and professional manner. I should have mentioned that the tape from Israel came from our good and sincere friend Sam Sternberg, whose recent letters to Frank Murphy have been such a delight. His sincere appreciation of Bing is most heart-warming.

= Not unnaturally, the new album RARE STYLE came in for some critical listening - but no doubt judgments on that too are to be found elsewhere.

= And so, to the ladies! As they comprised merely a trio it won't take long to name them: Mrs. Crampton, a largely unseen but undoubtedly a tireless behind-the-scenes grafter, Renee (or must I say Mrs. George Smith from Keighley?) and Mrs. Frank Ashurst from Wigan. As ladies tend to do on such occasions, they gave invaluable aid to Mrs. Crampton in the almost continous dispensation of tea, sandwiches and other refreshments - apart from finding yours truly a seemingly unfailing source of hilarity in my efforts to find a regular chair. I must admit I did seem to be playing a game of musical chairs during Bing's records, chiefky because each time I stood up, somebody seemed to take my seat.....and its not as if there wasn't plenty of seating accommodation! Most peculiar, really.

= So, if I've given the impression that we had a great time - why, that's exactly what we did have. There was one unavoidable omission. Due to Leslie Phythian's innate reticence, a most intriguing taped interview with Arthur Tracey, the famous Street Singer, was not available to the meeting generally. Leslie, with a colleague, had obtained this fascinating interview with Arthur during the latter's come-back appearance in a Liverpool theatre. You will remember Les mentioned this forthcoming event in the last issue. I have since heard the tape, during which The Street Singer kindly sent greetings to both the International Crosby Circle and the 1930's Record Society (The Golden Years), and it is indeed a "scoop" of the first magnitude. Arthur Tracey is a fascinating raconteur - and as quite a few of us have heard, seems to be singing as well as ever! Leslie, by the way, is no mean interviewer, either.

(Cont. over.

DESIGNED TO HELP YOU OUT !

----------but I bet it doesn't !

+ Without checking back I believe it was exactly two years ago, January 1966, that a story of mine first appeared in BING - and thereby set me off on whatmost people, I'm certain, believe to be an uncordinated course - after well over 30 years of lone-wolf Crosbyana. Not that that can be strictly true, for to use the old advertising slogan, one can never be alone in admiring Bing Crosby. Indeed, not so many years ago the whole world seemed one whole fan club. It still is in undreamed of fields.... However, that story was entitled "Ah! My Favourite Bing..." - and now Editor Frank has thrown the ball back into court and asked what is indeed your favourite Crosby record. For me, a hopeless job, yet it is a perennial task that never fails to fascinate. For as we all know, one of the many fascinating facets of the peerless Crosby voice is that one can listen to Lullaby from Jocelyn one minute - and Is You Is Or is you Ain't Ma Baby the next. Or Just A-Wearyin' For You, followed by Your Feets Too Big. There are even more intriguing combinations. Try and work a few out!

+ Frank has plumped for "In A Five and Ten Cent Store. For many years Les Gaylor has plumped for "Moonstruck". Who is going to argue with either. Both are from the early 30's - down the lane that George Smith is wont to wander. Not that it is a lonely lane, for he will have hordes with him. But elsewhere, in RARE STYLE notes I believe, I've reminisced on 30's songs, so won't start off again here.

+ Nowadays, in this pop-ridden-gimmick world the record companies have realised that they can sell a million (sometimes) with one side of a record, with even more wearying rubbish on the reverse side. It doesn't seem to have been their practice in the 30's. Otherwise, how would we have got Linger a Little Longer in the Twilight with WE're A Couple of Soldiers My Baby & I on the back? And if they are not a couple of Bing's best numbers, I'm a - (fill in your own ideas). Linger is truly a wonderful track. Then again, on this two-sided record bonanza, what of Temptation backed in most cases with the incredible Thanks? I'm willing to gamble I've already mentioned several peoples' favourites!

+ Another "accidental coupling", I feel certain was Sweet Leilani and The One Rose. The latter is, in my humble opinion, one of Bing's greatest performances, but it was of course, overshadowed by its record-partner. Have you listened to The One Rose lately? For an artistic interpretation of a song one will go a considerable distance to better it.

+ In the first chorus, Bing sings it straight. I mean as straight as Bing ever sings, vide the glides, slides, breaks, etc. so beloeved of Dr. Mize.

You will recall that a good way to try and understand the Crosby style was to follow the printed music and lyrics of a song whilst Bing sang it. Then listen to the second chorus of The One Rose - it is a thing of incredible phrasing and delivery. An artists rendition if ever there was one. I loved it in 1937 - I love it still. What do you think? Is it your favourite? It sold a "million" by accident seemingly, being on the back of Sweet Leilani

+ What of that beautiful record "The Touch of Your Lips" with its verse so finely sung by Bing. Ray Noble must have been highly gratified when his great song was given such wonderful, sympathetic, treatment by Bing. As sometimes happens with a good song, I know people who actually prefer the verse to the chorus. Certainly, Touch of Your Lips is one song where the verse matches the refrain.

+ The two Lullabies, from Jocelyn and from or rather by, Brahms, must rank pretty high as great examples of singing with true feeling. That Bing invariably sings with feeling is axiomatic, but the vehicle may call for special treatment. These two do - and get it in bountiful measure.

+ Listening to Bing's 30's records one is forced to the conclusion that one can hardly go wrong in picking a record from that era as favourite. Having said that you will reflect on my enthusiasm for How the West Was Won, It is readily apparent, however, that the songs on that album are even older than 30's.

+ Another record that was perhaps overshadowed by its "partner" was the reverse side of You Are My Sunshine, which reminds me that

Designed To Help You Out (Cont)

my little note in the last issue regarding Bing's so effective introduction to Daydreaming brought back memories to my friend Walter Lambert, as he tells me in a charming letter. Walter would very much like to get hold of a copy of this 78 - and I feel certain we can help him out. He said: "Ah, Daydreaming by Bing. Do you think you could let me know if this is available please? It would mean so much to Gwen, my wife, and myself if we could get hold of a copy. We did possess the 78 at one time, but alas.....L.P., E.P., or single will do." Walter is at 66, Ashness Gardens, Greenford, Middlesex - or write to me. I would like that.

+ But back to the "favourite" trail. We haven't mentioned "Brother Can You Spare a Dime", "Please", "Here Lies Love", "Love In Bloom", "June in January" and hundreds of others....like "Cabin in the Pines", "Home on the Range". Verily, you couldn't go wrong in the 30's. Just put in your thumb - and you know the rest.

+ Of course, you may prefer the up-tempo Bing, and here the field is just as vast. I know Fred Reynolds, like me, has a weakness for "Walking The Floor Over You" - and this, of course, gives us the brother-combination, evident again in another fine record, "Rose of San Antone". These latter, were as a matter of fact, just beyond the 30's. And it would be quite absurd to say that good popular songs ended with the 30's - for they didn't, as Bing's illustrious record in the 40's prove. But, they became much more difficult to find, I would say. There are good songs today as well but even rarer still. David Jacobs and his ilk would have us believe they are overwhelmingly greater today than ever before!

+ I suppose there is a systematic way one could go about deciding your favourite Bing record. Perhaps on the following lines: First of all decide on a decade - and there are no less than five to choose from. If I say perhaps we could rule out the 20's for our choice, I'm sure to hear from someone whose favourite falls in that happy-go-lucky yet depressive decade.

+ Secondly, decide whether it is a straight "love ballad" you like - or is it a carol, a hymn, a Dixieland number, an Hawaiian song (like Bing himself), a childrens' song, a cowboy or Western song (shall have to be careful here or I'll be back on H.T.W.W.W. and Shenandoah). However, decide on your category.

+ You should now be down to a short list, I fancy. So giving marks from 0 to 10, say, for each of melody, lyric, and Bing's interpretation, by adding together the number of marks, the highest will be your favourite record. You could perhaps think of other "marking" items, such as accompaniment, general arrangement, tempo, and so on. This is my advice, designed to help you out - but its no use to me for I can't get down to a short list!

+ A very good song of the 50's, in my opinion - good enough to have been written in the 30's in fact, is "The Next Time It Happens". And I don't turn my nose up at "Gigi", either. But as I say, they became fewer and fewer as the years rolled by and the 30's became more distant. No doubt there are good reasons why the 30's were so prolific as far as good songs go - it was the age of the great Hollywood musical, radio was at its zenith with no T.V. with its voracious appetite - and I can't help feeling, with deference to our younger members, that public taste has got much easier to satisfy and please. May-be I'm Wrong Again, to quote another excellent record of Mr. C's!

+ But it does lead to a point which may be a good one to finish this on. What is the favourite track of the youngsters - say up to 30, or perhaps even 40? I feel their choice may be very intriguing. People of that age-group did not participate in the halcyon (musical) years of the 30's. They are cordially invited to let us know.

My friends - may I say how much I appreciated so many kind Christmas and New Year wishes? I had, I thought, prepared a fairly comprehensive list of people to greet - and found I was sadly awry. I just did not expect the mini-avalanche that descended upon me - and the family. I was highly gratified - and in some cases touched.

+ I also had a smile or two! What of this:"With best Wishes to You and the Family:

May your columns never collapse -
And may you ramble on for ever!"

Okay, I won't take that as unanimous. Just as long as the voice of Bing plugs along for ever!

But I do thank you and certainly reciprocate your kind thoughts. May 1968 be a good Crosby year for us all.

When two or three are gathered together to talk Crosbyana it invariably proves a stimulating and bubbling affair. What happens when about twenty-five dedicated admirers are assembled under one roof - many of them meeting for the first time after being postal or magazine friends for a long time?

+ It occurred to me that a discreetly concealed microphone would have picked up some fascinating remarks.

++++++++++ Conversation Piece ++++++++++++++++ ++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++

Short of that, however, I found it simple to retain quite a lot of what was said ..... perhaps you will find it of interest, too.

I am not giving the speakers' names, though I am certain they will be able to identify themselves! and I'm certain they will not be offended if you all "eavesdrop".....

".....I sometimes - not often, but sometimes - ponder whether it was a good thing for me to catch the 'Crosby' bug so early. To me, all other singers are mere pigmies beside Crosby. Perhaps I'm missing something by not wanting records by other singers....have I been too single-minded? Only do I want Bing singing a song, even when sometimes possibly it is a song more suitable for, say, Robeson, or even Lanza. But a record-session soon dispels that introspection....."

- ITS A COMMON COMPLAINT, IS IT NOT? WE ALL SUFFER FROM IT TO AN EXTENT.

\+ + +

".....whoever is holding, or sitting on, those wonderful tracks such as "Buddy Can You Spare a Dime', "Linger a Little Longer', 'Love in Bloom', "May I', and so on deserves to be pole-axed;..."

HM'MMM....A LITTLE SADISTIC, I FEEL. I WOULD SETTLE FOR A STRAIGHTFORWARD, TIDY, HANGING! (And in parenthesis, the news in our sister-publication THE CROSBY COLLECTOR shows that the sitters-on have at last removed their carcasses and a fantastic treat from C.B.S. is on its way.) And this snippet of conversation was after we had listened to an hour-long tape of real early 30's stuff.

\+ + +

".....now take 'takes!' I'm afraid I'm not a bit interested in 'em! I accept that Bing often took several shots at some songs before everyone was satisfied, but as long as I have the song I'm not particularly concerned which take it was - or which label its on. Truth to tell, I'd be very happy to have all Bing's output reissued on microgroove and chuck away all the old 78's, whether they're Columbia, Brunswick, Lucky, or what have you!" "I'm not bothered if in Take 1 Bing sings the, and in Take 2 sings thee....."

+ FAIR COMMENT! BUT OF COURSE, THE STUDY AND ACQUISITION OF ALTERNATE TAKES IS AN EXTENSION OF COLLECTING - A FASCINATING EXTENSION TO MANY. AS A MATTER OF FACT, I SHARE THESE SENTIMENTS - ALTHOUGH THE TWO DIFFERENT "TAKES" OF GALLAGHER & SHEAN SHOOK ME SOMEWHAT! LIVE AND LET LIVE, SHALL WE SAY?

".....I'm glad that Bing made "HOW THE WEST WAS WON" after most of 'RARE STYLE'."

NO COMMENT HERE - THE SPEAKER DIDN'T ENLARGE!

(Cont. over

CONVERSATION PIECE Cont...

".....I'll never forget the first time I heard Bing sing 'Home on the Range'. The impact was quite emotional - I was 16 at the time. Still is....."

INDEED, I HAD THE SAME FEELING. STILL HAVE!

\+ + +

".....I've heard 'RARE STYLE' two or three times now, and its beginning to grow on me. But - there was a time when you didn't wait for Bing's records to grow on you. Don't misunderstand me, Bing sings great, just great. But tell me, did 'Please' have to grow on you? Did 'June in January' have to grow on you?.....despite the illustrious list of composers these tracks have a sophistication and construction that does not immediately catch the ear. Suppose I'm an old fogie when I say they just don't write songs like that any more.....a good sentimental ballad is just laughed at today. They want to go the whole hog....'I Can't Get No Satisfaction' - isn't that what they sing these days? I'm all for dressing it up with the Moon and June and so on....."

HE HAD A VERY VALID POINT, IN MY OPINION.

\+ + +

".....do you know, I'm a little ashamed to admit it - but I've never heard THE COUNTRY HITS album....sssh, don't let is get around!"

THIS OMISSION WAS SOON RECTIFIED!

\+ + +

".....I was glad when they cut out that heavy-handed, Saturday-night boozer, piano interlude in the Realm Classics of 'Temptation'. Who was it - Lennie Hayton? I bet he shudders when he hears it now!"

NOW - WHAT CAN YOU MAKE OF THAT? ACTUALLY, I AGREE. I ALWAYS CONSIDERED IT A HAMMY, THEATRICAL, AMATEURISH INTERLUDE - YET OL' LESLIE DOWN IN THE I.O.W. REGRETS ITS 'CUTTING'. YOU CAN PLEASE SOME OF THE FANS SOME OF THE TIME &C.!

\+ + +

".....you know, I've always felt sorry for the Crosby boys. Aye, even with the money and luxury and having Bing for 'dad'. Trying to make a mark in show business, that is. How on earth can anyone follow, or live up to, the greatest of them all? I can understand the call to show-business was strong, but feel their only hope was to stick to management or production. Brother Bob, without Bing, would have been a highly successful singer, for he certainly had the 'Crosby' tones, to a lesser extent. But how much did Bob sing? A successful father, or even a moderately-successful father, can no doubt he a big help to his off-spring, even if they go through the palavar of changing their name - while letting everyone know! - so as not to trade on the old man. But with Bing as Dad its a frightening prospect...."

AND THIS, I THOUGHT, WAS A PROFOUNDLY TRUE SENTIMENT. IT TIES UP, IN A WAY, WITH WHAT THE QUOTATION ABOVE MEANT: HAVING GOT THE BING-BUG I WANT TO LISTEN TO NO-ONE ELSE. THAT ILLUSTRATES THE TREMENDOUS DIFFICULTY OF GARY & CO. YET BING TRIED DESPERATELY HARD WITH GARY - INDEED, ACHIEVED SOME HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL DUETS AS 'RARE STYLE' FURTHER ILLUSTRRATES. BUT IN THIS CONNECTION, NO MATTER WITH WHOM BING DUETS, HIS QUALITY AND STYLE OVERSHADOWS EVERYTYING AND EVERYONE. LOOK WHAT HE DOES TO SINATRA ! YET SUCH IS BING'S NATURE, HE WOULD BE APPALLED AT THESE UTTERANCES.

(Cont over....

CONVERSATION PIECE. (Cont)

+ One final snippet:

".....I'm sorry, I didn't catch your name when we were introduced.....Reg Bristo? Ooooh! WELL, C'EST LA VIE, N'EST PAS? WE DID HAVE A GREAT TIME, HOWEVER. WISH YOU HAD BEEN THERE.

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+++++++++ T H E P A S S I N G O F +++++++++

++++++++++ P A U L W H I T E M A N ++++++++++

+ So, on December 29th, 1967, we were saddened to hear the news that that monumental figure - in most senses - Paul "Pops" Whiteman, had departed this life at the age of 77, still in harness as musical director to the American Broadcasting Company. Bing and all Bing's admirers must have felt a personal sense of loss, irrespective of the facts that probably none of us ever were within three thousand miles of him during his long life, or that it is a long, long, time since Paul Whiteman and Bing Crosby were in active co-operation.

+ Every Crosby devotee worthy of the name knows that it was "Pops" Whiteman who gave young Bing his first big opportunity in the business. That Bing would have emerged anyway is not relevant. Paul was the man. We have all read of the alleged ribaldry with which Bing and Al Rinker are alleged to have greeted the news that Paul Whiteman wanted to see them.

+ There is no doubt that Paul Whiteman's ideas on light and dance music were years in advance of his time, even in America itself. He was dubbed "The King of Jazz" when the word "jazz" was an all-embracing term meaning all music that wasn't actually classical. The purists of jazz, ever since, have made great jest of this appellation - yet by so doing they illustrated that their jazz education was far from complete, to say the least. If Paul Whiteman wasn't a "jazz man" - he had a sound yet prosaic musical upbringing, I believe - there is no doubting his tremendous flair and talent for supplying what the public was going to want! There is no doubting the musical and jazz calibre of most of the instrumentalists that served under his illustrious banner. His organisation could be likened, I feel, to that of a "university of dance music" in that almost everyone who was anyone did a spell with Paul Whiteman. His British counterparts, following in his footsteps, were perhaps the two Jacks, Hylton and Payne.

+ Paul was the first to feature a very large orchestra, with banks of violins, tremendous reed and brass sections, etc. playing sound, melodious, rhythmic, arrangements - while on stage they featured the phenomenon of the time, "symphonic jazz". Certainly a contradiction in terms, but readily understandable. These were the ambitious, spectacular, "stage" transcriptions and arrangements so popular in this country somewhat later in the 30's.

+ Listen to Bing himself, in "Call Me Lucky":

> "To Al Rinker and me it seemed incredible that Paul Whiteman - a man who in 1927 stood out above other American bandleaders as Mount Everest stands out above other mountains - thought us good enough to ask us to appear with his band".

+ Paul Whiteman was, also, the first big bandleader to be featured in a Hollywood spectacular "The King of Jazz", in which Bing made an obscure appearance - and was actually scheduled to sing that great song "Song of the Dawn", subsequently allocated to John Boles because Bing was, in his own parlance, "in durance vile"! Bing has since reflected that if he had done this song, which he felt to be not really in his category, and "flopped" - it may have been the end of the road for him! And of course, Paul Whiteman & his Orchestra, were responsible for performing that tremendous innovation of its time, "Rhapsody In Blue", by the immortal George Gerswhin.

(Cont over.....

THE PASSING OF PAUL WHITEMAN: (Cont)

+ I was listening on/yesterday to Paul's records of "Happy Feet" and "Bench In the Park". To my not impartial ears, they sound no whit dated.

+ Paul originated, led, inspired and graced a tremendous era. That he lived to a ripe old age is a consolation, though death remains ever melancholy. Bing can, perhaps with some satisfaction, console himself that his youthful peccadilloes - and those of Joe Venuti! - did not appear to shorten Paul's lifetime, as he feared at one time!

+ But a loss remains a loss, and a giant has passed on.....

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A RAMBLING, REFLECTIVE, ROUND-UP.

==========oOo==========

+ Tremendous flair for publicity, these Northern chaps! I sincerely hope Editor Frank has reproduced as authentically as possible the full-page spread the I.C.C. received in the Northern editions of the "DAILY MIRROR" (no less) on December 20th last, complete with excellent pictures of Frank himself, John Maugham, Bill Bell and John Shaw, all stoutly displaying Der Bingle's albums. Great stuff! The story was written by Colin Dunnewho gladly roped himself into the Crosby-circle. Frank was described as the "high-priest" of the Crosby Circle. We're goin' places indeed!

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+ Well, my hopes of an unexpected appearance of Bing with Bob Hope in the Royal Command Variety Performance did not, of course, maerialise. It was too much to hope - especially as two such shrewd, professional, entertainers as Bing and Bob know too much to overdo a great gimmick. Bing did not even break in on Bob's Eamonn Andrews' appearance - though I imagine most of us sat up in the expectation that he <u>might</u> just. This appearance, by the way, produced a tragic-comedy experience for Bob that a script-writer wouldn't have dreamed up. For those who didn't see it, the eccentric Earl of Arran, quite impromptu, was intent on paying Bob a big, wholesome compliment. He said ".....and you, Mr. Hope, who have given more pleasure and entertainment than anyone else to millions...with the possible exception of Bing Crosby....!" Bob made every appearance of retiring after this shot, but rallied magnificently, and generously conceded that "Dad has done a great job."

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+ Since our last issue, Bing has figured prominently in the newspapers. After asking so melodiously for years "How Can You Buy Killarney" he was reported to be negotiating to buy a part of the ould countrhy. But it wasn't, if I remember rightly, Killarney! Then there was his unexpected backing of the winsome Shirley Temple in her Congress-nomination campaign. I read somewhere this was a real departure for Bing insofar as he has, for a lifetime, steered clear <u>publicly</u> of politics.

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+ The newsletter system, reintroduced by Frank, giving us the astounding news that Bing had "gone contemporary" and recorded four new sides for Reprise was a real tonic. Especially as subsequent word indicates that the sides look, or perhaps sound, extremely promising for the full hit-parade treatment. A dubious distinction these days, no doubt, but it could be the start of somethin' big! The mere fact that Bing had recorded again was a sufficient shot in the arm to all of us, no doubt. Perhaps by the time this is published some of the real eager-Bingers will have, in fact, heard the tracks and given us the low-down.

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+ I'm certain quite a few Crosbyites had a pleasant surprise when they saw the front cover of the weekly magazine WEEKEND in early October last, for it featured a really excellent colour picture of Bing and Gary. Its a pity the story inside didn't match up to the excellent pictures contained inside as well. "My Eight Lost Years" - as a drunk. It read like the scenario of some hackneyed film epic. The author was one Walter Rainbird. One of the statements attributed to Gary was that at one time he was "putting away three or four bottles of brandy a day.." I just don't believe anyone can do that - and live for long. I detest these kind of stories of pathos, a "good" woman, renunciation and final triumph. I detest them about anybody for they are usually a garbled sensationalism, wallowing in the author's own words. Hoping perhaps to ring true by their very "shocking" confessions. When they are about Bing or his family, I just don't want to know. If that makes me an ostrich, that doesn't upset me. But the pictures WERE good! For those who include pictures of Bing in their activities and missed this - they can have the copy I bought. First come, first served.....

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+ I know Gary has had his troubles - see "CONVERSATION PIECE" a few pages back - but its abhorrent to me to have them written up in the style presented in WEEKEND.

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+ From my observations of the record shops - and I can claim to observe them very closely indeed - this past Christmas saw a real determined effort to foist anybody's "Christmas albums" on us but Bing's. Yet when Crosby albums were on display it was noticeable they disappeared well before Christmas, whereas most of the others remained on forlorn display after Christmas. This is not partisan observation, I assure you. Serves the dealers right! From the same observation I know that the Hallmark album is selling extremely well. The evidence? I watched two particularly large shops from the day the H.M. appeared. You probably noticed that the display stands carried about a dozen each of the various records. Within three days the dozen Crosby Classics had gone - and the stand remained void of C.C. until, obviously, a new consignment arrived. And within a few days, not a Crosby was to be seen.

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+ We had "Road to Morocco" on Boxing Day - but surely Bing sang less and less in these great "Road" pictures, the longer they went on? Inevitably "White Christmas" turned up on radio, and Michael Aspel who, incidentally, has considerably livened up "Forces Favourites" especially now the non-stop-talking ladies seem to be barred from the programme, referred to the "eternal Christmas Crosby classics". I heard that singularly unattractive record "We Wish You the Merriest" a couple of times. Surely Bing's contribution to this is as miniscule as his solo in "Bench in the Park" - with considerably less reason. It led me to reflect that Bing's tie-up with the Clan hasn't been entirely satisfactory from any point of view, with the possible exception of "Return to Paradise Islands". And even this album has been subjected to warranted technical criticism. I'm referring to the clan and their exploitation label, Reprise. For my money, I would rather have had Bing stand aloof. He never needed the mutual-admiration services of the Clan. And - never will.

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+ I did get a smile/ugh in a record shop just before Christmas! A lady, in company with another much younger, picked up the Hallmark and said: "Ah, I remember when Bing was like Tom Jones is now!" MADAME, YOU DO NOT! I kept a civil tongue in my head, for I think I know what the lady meant. She did take the Hallmark - and I'm sure she realised her error.

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+ I believe the set-up at the B.B.C. now is such that if 9,999 requests were received for a Crosby record, and one for a Beatles' record, the latter would be played. This doesn't apply to some of the regional request programmes, of course - only at Broadcasting House, where that National disgrace, Radio One, was conceived and is now being nurtured in face of growing revulsion - even from the teenagers. Perhaps the perpetrators are not full to the eyebrows with L.S.D. - you need to be, I imagine, to listen to it for long.

The international aspect of Crosbyana really comes home to you when you get letters packed with interest from Australia. One gets a little awe-struck when you think of the Bing-giants who scrutinise one's offerings in this country. When something turns up from 12,000 miles away.....Remember in the last issue, JOHN PUROHES while endorsing my views of "Blue Prelude",

++++++++++++ How One Thing ++

CAN LEAD TO ANOTHER!

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took me slightly to task for not mentioning that Gordon Jenkins was the composer!

+ NOW, John sent me an interest-packed letter, for which many thanks...and you will see what a train of thought John set in motion:

".....I get all the mags. and welcome them all as bringing back nostalgia to a person who has dabbled in records most of his life. My first surprise came after reading the latest BING wherein you had written up your comments on the 'Bouncing With Bing' album, and in particular to the number 'Redwing'. You said: "Surely we used to sing that years ago with different words? Something to the effect that the 'Sun shines bright on Charlie Chaplin'? Well, what a coincidence! You gave yourage away in this very statement and must assuredly be the same age as myself, as when a child (I was born in 1914) my parents used to sing the same song, and I think it went like this:

"Oh! the moon shines bright on Charlie Chaplin,
His boots are cracking for the want of blacking,
And his little baggy trousers they want mending,
Before they send him - to the Dardanelles!"

+ 'I'd be interested (carries on John) to learn if these lyrics were the same as those you recall - the last line could have been typically Australian, as our Anzacs were sent during 1914 to Gallipolli (and here the names Dardanelles came into it). Please advise on this, and it would be interesting to learn how many others recall the same song with these lyrics.

+ "I notice too, with interest, that reference has been made to certain records where Bing is mentioned in the lyrics. Keith Hyde is chasing some of these tunes. I have in my possession a complete side on Columbia 12" (78r.p.m.) entitled simply "Bing", which is acted by Dinky Bew of Gang Show fame by Ralph Reader. This is a novelty item, very well done and Bing gets a lot of credit from the words. Surely you English folk must have had access to this record which was produced in England?

+Another item of interest found whilst collecting Crosbyana is the 78r.p.m. record of "I Left My Sugar Standing in the Rain" played by the combined bands of (and this is from memory) Kit Kat Band, Debroy Somers and another in a large ballroom. Until I obtained the record by the Whiteman Band with the 'Rhythm Boys' singing this number with Mississippi Mud I had never heard of the tune - so you can imagine my delight when I came across this item. The massed bands in the ballroom play this tune in slow tempo and it is wonderfully done - the same as the Whiteman version, of course, and must surely have been very well-known in those halcyon days. Honestly, though, until I heard Bing's version in 1934 I had never heard the tune!

+ I concur wholeheartedly with your write-ups on the Dr. Mize book....we should do something about resurrecting this wonderful book...I suppose I was very lucky in getting my own copy from of all people, Barney Crosby, who was at that stage a great collector of records and through him I amassed hundreds of my Bing collection through being able to exchange with him Australian jazz records. Let me see, back in those years I corresponded with Edward Mello, Ed. Lambert, Ed. Cleason and Claude Woods, all of whom helped me inestimably with my collecting. None of these fellows apparently follows Bing collecting now. Jack Souther would be the main one left from the names I recall in those wonderful years. Another name almost synonomous with Bing was Charles (Chuck) Lindsley - who was the big name. Robert Weill was another (he sold his collection at the time and I was fortunate enough to get 'Susianna' from him." - John went on with some interesting comments on Harry Barris, but

John Purches Cont.

I'm running out of space! And I want very much to comment on John's letter. Yes indeed, these are the very words to 'Redwing' that I was thinking of - and the last line, though probably Anzac in origin, was certainly known to all children of the age that John mentions - although in the interests of honesty, John, you were just two years out, for I made my obscure entry in 1916! But that little jingle went on for many years after Gallipoli. It indicates, too, Charlie Chaplin's logevity!

+ The ill-fated expedition referred to and still remembered by grieving people all over the world was, on the surface, nothing to cause laughter or doggerel. Yet as most of us remember, Hitler in the darkest days, produced a similar mirthful output. As John remembers, 'Dardanella' was another song, or melody rather, for I always remember it as a tune rather than a song, produced in connection with that expedition. Bing sang 'Dardanella' on the Satchmo album, but (another confession here) I don't have that track, so I don't know how the lyric goes. For years it was an instrumental effort - with clarinet predominating on that rising and falling coda - a very haunting tune, in my opinion.

+ But, bearing in mind that John is Australian, I in turn wonder if he knows another song with obvious Gallipolli connections? I'm certain that Bing has never sung this song, and today, despite its poignancy, it would no doubt produce ribald laughter. Yet I regularly see an elderly gentleman who was buried alive for a considerable period at Gallipolli - and he doesn't laugh too easily, even now. Anyway, this song goes as follows:

"In a quaint Australian cottage, with the roses round the door,
A girl received a letter, from a solder in the war.
With her mother's arms around her, she broke right down and cried,
And as she read the letter, the tears fell from her eyes.

(Chorus) Why should I weep, why should I cry ?
My love's asleep, so far away,
He played his part, that Ausust day,
And left my heart in Suvla Bay."

+ I am not certain these words are exactly correct, but are to the best of my knowledge. To really hear this song done justice one must be in a Welsh valley public house around 10.30 on a Saturday night where it can be heard rendered with tremendous gusto, and despite the bathos, is quite an experience! Suvla Bay was, of course, prominent in the Dardanelles campaign, which took place, actually, in 1915-16. It was planned, in the utmost good faith, as another way into Europe when the Allies and the Germans were locked together in France and deadlock had been reached. As John says, the Anzacs suffered severely in this campaign.

+ Actually, I'd very much like to hear Bing sing this Victorian-sounding ballad. I'm sure it will revive memories for a lot of readers, especially the older ones.

+ As regards the collectors' names given by John, one must ask: Where are they now? Here again, surely, memories will be jogged. Cannot we, in some measure, recapture the halcyon days to which John refers? Do any of these old-timers read BING? I know John would like to hear from them if they do - and many others he probably hasn't mentioned. As I started off by saying, its surprising how one thing can lead to another.

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+ AT THE RISK OF BEING DISBARRED, or whatever happens to Columnists who outstay their welcome, I want to add a postscript to the eulogy I've already delivered on H.W.W.W. Mainly I think, because I note I didn't mention Bing singing 'Hang Me, O Hang Me', and 'Git Along Little Dogies', or Bing and Rosie singing 'Crossing the Plains', or Bing singing 'The Old Settlers' Song' about Pugit Sound. Or the wonderful Salt Lake City Mormon Choir! They sing one great Anthem "Come, Come, Ye Saints", which has the recurring line beautifully, majestically, movingly sung: "All is well, All is well." The harmonies of this choir, with grand organ accompaniment remind one of a great Welsh choir, except it has a female content as well. You must hear the spontaneous glee of Bing during the introduction of "Skip to My Lou - Bing was obviously in his element with this recording project. This is a great album when Bing is NOT singing. When he is, its glorious. I suppose the interminable Westerns we have seen have made the West of America as familiar to us as it is to Americans.

+ I want to emphasise again that the exhortation to get this 2-record set is directed to newer readers -- and those, like myself, who had previously dismissed it as being unlikely to interest them, in view of the cost. Believe me, friends, it is worth ten times the full price!

"......since reading BING I find myself listening to my records with new ears. I've always loved Bing's voice and have built up a fine collection. But now I find myself listening to how Bing and the arrangement complement one another. I listen for rare snatches of guitar, or clarinet, piano, etc. I listen to Bing's treatment...."

+ The above is an extract from a recent letter. I'm sure BING contributors will find that handsome reward. I know I do.....

+ Listening to "Call of the South" the other day I was reminded of Les Phythian's conversation with Bing just over a year ago when, on being reminded of "Shine" with the Mills Brothers by Les, Bing wryly remarked that such was the social climate in America today that a repeat performance was quite ruled out. And in "Call of the South" Bing, singing "Old Folks At Home" against Gary's top melody, substitutes the word "people" for the "darkies" that has been used from time immemorial in the line: "O, people how my heart grows weary....." A sing of the times indeed - on December 30 or 31st, 1953.

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+ Bing has had a happy rapporte which most of the luminaries of the great days, and I remember us talking about Schnozzle Durante's reference to Bing in "Inka Dinka Doo". I feel Bing, many years later, returned the compliment in that record of "When I Take My Sugar To Tea". Have you noted that when Buddy Cole is performing some sparkling pyrotechnics on piano in the middle chorus Bing enquires in a typical Durantee tone of puzzled indignation: "What kinda tea-room is this? Delicious - I always wait for it.

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+ "One More Time" yelp the brash young singers of today, especially the finger-snapping performers whose voices would be more suited to the sale of bananas in Bereford Market. (Beresford Market? In S.E. London - a rumbustious market square, Woolwich, S.E.18. I wouldn't be surprised if Ralph Harding and other London collectors have picked up a rare record or two there in years gone by! It is noted for, among others things, its raucous-voiced greengrocers.) I wonder if these aforementioned singers would be dismayed to discover that Bing Crosby was singing this phrase, in his exquisitely unique style, in 1931 at the Cocoanut Grove with Gus Arnheim's Band ? Don't tell 'em - they think its new and "with it".

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+ Although I've never pointed it out before, I always thought it odd that "Blues in the Night" occurred on "Songs I Wish I'd Sung" when Bing had sung it on its inception - especially as it was a Johnny Mercer composition - in 1942, 27th January to be precise. One imagines that a modicum of research goes into the compilation of an album, yet this wants a bit of understanding. But as Fred Reynolds pointed out, it is not alone for " Tobermory Bay" which is a Scottish song, turned up among all those Irish numbers as an odd-man-out. Queer, isn't it?

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+ This is hardly the feature in which, perhaps, to mention it, but I haven't exhausted Doctor Mize by any means. I've just rationed my space out badly. I hope to include some more, and perhaps final, extracts, in the next issue in May. One Morning in May: now that was a fine ballad that Bing never recorded - or did he? Really, I've got no excuse for leaving things in the air like that for the wonderful fact is that I now have all four parts of the Road to....

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+ So I come, finally, to RARE STYLE. I cannot resist joining in on this album, despite what has already been said and written, including Les Gaylor's excellent plug in the "Sun" concerning Mike Nevard's review of the album. This is a truly artistic album, and I used that description knowing that you and I know that any Crosby album is artistic. But it has special emphasis concerning this latest, and last, Ace of Hearts issue.

+ Bing's singing is endowed with a feeling that has seldom been bettered, and in most cases the accompaniment is on a matching level of quality. "True vintage Bing in most cases" as one leading collector put it to me recently. Yet, to some extent I must go along with the remark a few pages back about having to listen to the album several times to really begin to appreciate the superb artistry - which will still serve as a model for aspiring balladeers. The intrinsic merit of the songs - sensible lyrics, well-constructed melodies, comes to you more as you play the album - an exceedingly pleasant task. I'm prepared to believe that "Suddenly There's a Valley" made the biggest impact on most listeners the first time the album was run through, simply because it was one number thoroughly familiar.

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+ Much has already been said about the uncustomed slow, if not lugubrious, pace of "Liza". It would be interesting to know whose idea it was to adopt this very unusual treatment. My feeling is that it imposed a needless strain on Mr. C. in the way of sustaining notes, especially as the song takes him well up in the register at times. Oddly enough, the verse (nice to hear Bing back on verses) is eminently suited to the slower treatment - and I suppose it would have sounded "gimmicky" to have changed tempo with the refrain. In the, to my mind, mistaken policy of rendering the number so slowly Bing nevertheless sings it superbly.

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+ The duet with Gary is just great - I love that double "that": "Yes - that - that(s what you do son!" A highly whimsical effort. "The Longest Walk" set me back a bit, for I would have said it was a Buddy Bregman arrangement and accompaniment if I hadn't known better. And as you know, Mr. Bregman isn't exactly my favourite arranger. "Chesapeake Bay" was another surprise. Not having heard it before, the title had me imagining a sort of "Drifting & Dreaming" effort - and it turns out to be a Dixieland job!

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+ I hope I'm not more prurient-minded than average, but I feel some of the lines in "The Possibility's There with Peggy Lee would have sounded distinctly improper if Bing and P.L. hadn't interpreted them so charmingly! I'll say no more - but listen again! The fine organ solo in "More Than You Know" is a beautiful piece of work, musical and restrained, and the final coda with Buddy running down into the "depths" of the organ is a particular delight. As a matter of fact, this was a favourite coda of Buddy's - almost a musical trade-mark. Note too how clearly the precision work of the drummer on brushes shows up during the organ solo.

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+ It goes without saying perhaps that the sleeve-notes by Geoff. Milne were highly acceptable, written by a man who really knows his Crosby. The picture too, from the same stable as the one on "Among My Souvenirs" is remarkably well reproduced. If you look at it from two or three yards' distance you get an almost 3-D effect, especially with the shadow cast by the dog. But as I said, the sheer artistry of this album marks it as a tremendous finale under the Ace of Hearts banner.

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+ We'll have to form another branch of the S.P.C.C.C. - Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Crosby Collectors! To have the fabulous new 2-record set described for us in such detail - knowing that it will be weeks or months before we can get it is just too much! C.B.S. or our American friends must hurry!

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+ Remember Dr. Mize suggested following the written music while listening to Bing's renditions to appreciate his so individual style of phrasing? I feel there is no need to go to those lengths. Listen instead to some of the Singalong albums for the same effect. They afford striking illustration of what the Dr. meant. With the chorus singing correctly and prosaically Bing indulges his individuality as to scoops, slides, phrasing, etc.

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+ Well, that's it until July. Thanks again for the interesting letters. Hope you have a good holiday.

GETTING THINGS TAPED

(An introductory article to what, it is hoped, will be a regular feature)

by FRED REYNOLDS

A little over ten years ago a Crosby admirer, Ron Davies, introduced a new bi-monthly publication called "Crosby Collector" ("The "Record" Magazine for the Bing enthusiast"). He also had a very bright idea and in the first issue of the magazine, dated April/May 1957, the following paragraph appeared:

"KEEPING IN TOUCH BY TAPE"

Have you a tape recorder? If so you know what fun it can bring and what an added interest to life it can bring - especially if you "tapespond" i.e. exchange recorded message tapes. If you possess a recorder ----- it is proposed to send out a "Magazine Tape" called "TAPE CROSBY" from time to time. This will enable members to actually hear unusual and unissued commercially Bing material — will be a more personal touch by hearing the voice of some of the chaps who are running this new magazine "CROSBY COLLECTOR". If you would be interested therefore drop a P.C. now and in due course if interest warrants a further note will appear in this magazine."

Sufficient interest was forthcoming and Ron Davies asked our friend Stan White to organise the tape in conjunction with the magazine. Not, however, without mishap for on two occasions the tapes were lost in postal transit. The ill-fated "Crosby Collector" magazine did not long survive and after ten issues, the last being that of Oct/Nov 1958, it prematurely expired in somewhat mysterious circumstances which we need not herein discuss. (I should mention that the magazine has no connection with that now published by Ralph Harding other than Ralph's adoption of its name).

The idea of "Tape Crosby" had, however, been born and Stan continued it through trial and tribulation until 1962 when the tapes were lost for the second time. Eventually the G.P.O. awarded compensation, new tapes were obtained and Stan, undaunted, re-commenced in October 1963, this time in association with the British Crosby Society and its magazine "Crosby Post". A few months later Stan found that other commitments were making heavy demands on his time and sought someone to take over his "Tape Crosby" responsibilities. At this time, in July 1964, Jack Manners - a Co-President of the B.C.S. asked me if I would act as Publicity Officer for the Society, a post for which I felt entirely unsuited and thus declined. I did not, however, wish to appear unco-operative and although I was very busily engaged on the discography and other matters I offered to be of help by taking over "Tape Crosby" from Stan White. The handing over was smoothly accomplished and it has been my privilege to organise the tapes for the past three years. Stan did a very good job, capably and conscientiously, for nearly seven years and his efforts provided opportunity for much pleasure and ties of friendship through a common interest and hobby.

So much for the checkered history of "Tape Crosby". The tapes themselves, for there are two, are 1800' on 7" reels and recorded on half-track at $3\frac{3}{4}$" per second each having a total playing time of approximately three hours: One tape is the last completed round, the other the current round on which participants record their news, views, musical items etc. The latest Crosby information is exchanged and discussed and the range of musical offerings is extensive including "Bing", "non-Bing", commercial and non-commercial recordings. Nothing, within reason and respectability, is barred but naturally most of the tape's contents is some facet or other of Crosbyana. Other than the cost of posting the tapes (now by Recorded Delivery) to the next member participation is free and when the tapes have needed replacement they have been donated by generous members.

When I took over "Tape Crsoby" I hoped to achieve a quarterly circulation but even "cracking the whip" at members who so love the tapes they appear

reluctant to pass them on has not yet brought this about. I think I can safely say that the tapes are popular for in the last three years there has been only one change in membership. It is for this reason that I am unable to offer much hope for anyone else wishing to take part and I was most pleased, therefore, when a few weeks ago Frank Murphy suggested that I do a regular series of articles for "Bing" magazine letting "I.C.C." members know about "Tape Crosby" contents. Since the B.C.S. terminated "Tape Crosby" has been independent of any other organisation and will so continue, but I shall be happy to do as Frank suggested. I must say at the outset, however, that the articles will be inadequate. There can be no substitute for hearing the musical recordings nor indeed for hearing the dialects which range from Cockney to Scottish via the Midlands, Lancashire, Yorkshire and Tyneside. But I do hope to tell you about the discussions and views expressed including some of the wittiest and most outrageous puns ever perpetrated. (My own favourite was that by Les Phythian who summed up a discussion on the merits and de-merits of the different qualities of recording tape with " ----- for he who acetates is lost".) On recent rounds we have heard recorded messages from Buddy Cole and John Scott Trotter, references to very old letters from Bing, a recorded message from I.C.C. member Frank Steiner of Palm Springs, California, renderings of "Blue of the night" on a Jaws Harp (from Ralph Harding) and by Bob and Alf Pearson (from Bob Roberts), an excellent report by Derek Parkes of how he breakfasted with John Scott Trotter at a London Hotel and a discussion on why Bing's photographs are usually unflattering.

May I conclude these introductory notes with a private whisper to members of "Tape Crosby"? If we can get the tapes round once every three months it would enable me to let Frank have an article for each issue of his magazine.

FRED REYNOLDS

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THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE - ADVERTISING AND YOU?

In the last issue of this naga zine we printed the following -

URGENTLY REQUIRED - 100 NEW MEMBERS FOR THE I.C.C. and of course we know before we printed such an expansive request what the chances were of getting 100 new members - we reckoned though, without the wonderful plug we got in the Daily Mirror from which letters are still coming in and so are new members and though the total number of new members enroled since the last issue is a very long way from 100 we did nevertheless take a big step in the right direction, which does show that to increase and survive whilst at the same time improve. We must do more advertising - Then why don't we- the reason is that until we have paid fully for our electric RX ROTORY printing machine we cannot afford the additional expence of advertising, once the machine is paid for we can then embark on a much needed series of adverts inthe leading musical and weekly periodicals as well as the monthly tape etc magazine through which many new members could be brought into the club - The latest statement from NORTHERN BUSINESS MACHINES LTD of Heaton Road, Newcastle on Tyne 6 shows that our balance owed is now down to £66 and this ammount is being reduced by a monthly bankers order of £8-5-0 showing that we still have a considerable way to got before we'll be clear of this nomittment - In order that we can launch a big advert campain now we are asking our members to contribute to a special advert campain fund - if you'd like to be associated with this special BOOST THE ICC CAMPAIN please send your contribution direct to Frank Murphy now - In the April issue of "BING" we'll print a full list of all members and donations together with a full detail of expenditure, slection of adverts etc - This same appeal is being launched in the current issue of our sister magazine THE GOLDEN YEARS and we are very hopeful of a worthwhile responce which in the end will benefit all members of the clubs and lead to bigger and better magazines and what is perhaps more important - lead to bigger international coverage.

PLEASE SUPPORT THIS SPECIAL "BOOST "BING" IN 1968 - CAMPAIN

RECORD SHOPS

By Bert Day

There has probably never been a time in the history of Gramophone or Phonograph records depending on which side of the Atlantic Ocean you happen to be, when so many different record labels have been available to the general public. To make matters even more difficult, is the fact that the same recording has been re-issued so many times, that it is possible to buy as many as three or four different labels.

Keeping track of the recordings made by various artists has become a very time absorbing task and the shops with all their various problems, especially the shortage of staff, appear to be only interested in the quick selling POP 30 records, and the L.P.'s of the current shows. The Record Catalogue has grown in size to such alarming proportions that it is not only divided into Popular and Classical sections but further into Normal and Budget price records. I refer to the composite catalogues issued by the "GRAMAPHONE" by such compilers as Mr. Albert McCARTHY and Mr. DAY (no relation). The title edition and artist editon of this catalogue are issued every twelve months during the month of March.

When one goes to a record shop or "Pop Bar" as they seem now to be called, any enquiry for a record that is NOT in the current chart is met with a vague search through the "Gramophone current Catalogue and if it is not entered, the reply to the enquiry is usually to the effect, that the particular record is not now available. This is, of course, utter nonsense. There are literally hundreds of recordings available that are not shown in the current edition of the "Gramophone Catalogue". The only way to get a true picture of all recordings still available, is to ask to see the trade catalogue for the particular recording company that the Artist records for; this is very easy in the case of many artists who only have recordings issued on one label: but with BING it may be necessary to search through a half dozen or more trade catalogues to get the true position of all recordings available.

Becuase of the attitude taken by the staff in modern record shops, I personally, have found it far better to order records from a reputable firm by POST. In the case of new releases, it means that I may be one day later than I would have been had I bought a new issue from an ordinary record shop as most new releases arrive in the shops a day or so before the release date anyway, and my dealer will usually put a record in the post so that I receive it on the day that the record would be on sale in the shops.

It is no more expensive to buy records in this manner for orders over £1 0s 0d are posted and packed free of post anyhow and for budget price L.P.'s under £1 0s 0d each or E.P.'s and Singles, the charge is only about 1s 6d to 2s 6d. When ordering, it is always essential to send the full amount involved and not just a deposit, with full information about the recording required. In 32 years of collecting I find that this is to me far the best way to buy records; there is no waiting in the shop; I do not have to wait to be served; the records always arrive MINT and unplayed, and not, in the too frequent grubby fingered cover that we seem to get in many shops these days.

If the editor will allow it I would like to give my particular record retailer a plug here, for he deserves it - if he can't get a record, it can't be got. The full Postal Address of the Company is:- "The Ilford Music Shop", Ilford Lane, Ilford,Essex.(Happy Collecting).

MURRAY GARRETT

Bob Hope and Bing joyously exchange insults. Bing doubts that his story contains any inspirational point of view, "but," he says, "it is certainly shot full of another favorite American commodity—luck."

THE CROSBY LIBRARY by BOB ROBERTS

A few weeks ago (probably a few months by the time you read this) Vera and I had just settled ourselves in front of the TV to watch ROAD TO UTOPIA when there was a knock on the front door. The most welcome visitor was our very active correspondent Michael Crampton from Leeds whom I had not seen for a couple of years. We watched the film to the end and then got down to some record playing and I was most happy to play some rare Crosby items for Mike. During the course of conversation I mentioned that I had intended to write an article for "BING" but that it was very difficult to find something that had not been written before . Then the CROSBYANA LIBRARY was mentioned and Mike suggested that an article on this subject would be appreciated, especially by newer readers. The main article is mainly informative information I have received over the years from Bing's office, but before writing the official story of the CROSBY LIBRARY here is a brief listing of a few additional facts which may be of some interest.

The Gonzaga University is situated in Spokane, Washington. Since the original information was received, Bing's Platinum plaque from The Hollywood Chamber of Commerce for 200,000,000 records sold and gold award for 250,000 albums sold have been added to the awards already housed in the Crosbyana Room. Also the 200 million figure is now nearer the 275 million mark.

Many a student spends four years at Gonzaga University without ever visiting the library's Gerald Manley Hopkins Room, which houses one of the finest collections of the English poet's work. Many others probably never ever hear of Gonzaga's rich treasure of Jesuit source material on the settlement of the West. But very few miss the room housing memorabilis of a non-academician who did'nt like the idea in the first place and has'nt shown much enthusiasm for it since. His name is Harry L. Crosby, better known as Bing. The Crosbyana Room draws more visitors to Gonzaga than anything else on the campus.

At the entrance of the library are two plaques.

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**********************************
*                                *
* AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM         *
*  A GRATEFUL ALUMNUS            *
*  HARRY L (BING) CROSBY         *
*  CLASS OF 1924, PRESENTS       *
*  THIS LIBRARY TO HIS           *
*  ALMA MATER IN THE NAME        *
*  OF THE CROSBY FAMILY          *
*                                *
*  SEPTEMBER 29, 1957            *
**********************************
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**************************************
*                                    *
* A DEVOTED ALMA MATER GRATEFULLY    *
* ACCEPTS THIS LIBRARY FROM A        *
* DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS, HARRY L.    *
* (BING) CROSBY, CLASS OF 1924,      *
* WHICH HE PRESENTS IN THE NAME      *
* OF THE CROSBY FAMILY               *
**************************************
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When Bing rose to present the keys of the building to Father Morton, he received a great ovation lasting several minutes. Bing, dressed in the colourful academic robes and a square topped hat of a doctor of music, sto d up amid 70 gowned professors to make the presentation at the end of the impressive ceremony and swept away the last vestige of solemnity with his first remark; "Oh, I wish Bob Hope could see me now.

Here then is the story of the Crosby Library.

The Crosby Library, located in the centre of the Gonzaga University campus, is approached by a long mall extending from Boone Avenue. Tow levels of stairs lead up to the front entrance, and a raised, two and a half foot terrace surrounds the building on three sides giving it a monumental appearance.
The facade of red Minnesota granite at the [illegible] main entrance to the building harmonizes with the painted concrete surfaces of the rest of the structure. Planter boxes along the sides of the entrance are formed by an extension of the building. Aluminion framed windows on the front and side walls contribute to the librarys modern lines.

THE LOWER FLOOR - of modular construction, the Crosby library has three stories. The lower floor contains the main stack area with a capacity of 166,000 volumes. Thirty study carrels with double lockers are available for student and faculty use. A vault w ich houses the archives of the Oregon Province of the Society of Jesus is also located there.
The map and film room provides facilities for storage of maps, microfilm, microcards, movie film and slides, as well as the use of microfilm and microcard readers. A microfilm camera is included in the equipment in the photographic dark room. Records and sheet music are kept in the music room where the two listening booths equipped with record players are provided.

THE MAIN FLOOR - a commemorative plaque, honoring the donor, Bing Crosby, hangs in the lobby entrance on the main floor. To the right is a glass enclosed lounge for student use. To the left is the catalogue area, and opening from this, are the processing department and the office of the Librarian.
The main reading room contains study space for 150 students. The circulation desk is immediately to the left of the door with a reserve book area behind it. Walls opposite the windows are lined with reference books. The back wall has shelving for newspapers and current periodicals. Upholstered chairs provide an atmosphere for leisure reading. Round tables alternate with rectangular ones, and low reference shelving devides the room and gives it an informal atmosphere.
Parallel to the reading room is a stack area which holds 36,000 volumes. Fourteen study tables line the windows on the east all. A workroom in the rear provides for storage and freight receiving.

THE SECOND FLOOR. On the second floor, at the front of the building, is the CROSBYANA ROOM, where the gold records, motion picture awards, pictures and other personal items given to the library by Bing are displayed. Meetings of the Board of Regents are held here.
A the northeast corner is the exhibits and lecture room, which seats 100 people The walls are covered with special display board for paintings and exhibits. An adjoining room provides for storage of chairs and audio-visual equipment. Behind the lecture room is a study area with a capacity for 122. To the rear of this is the rare book area.
On the west side of the second floor is the staff lounge . The Gerard Manley Hopkins Room, which contains the library's unique collection of this English poet, is also located in this area. Adjacent to this is a glassed-in seminar room. To the rear is another reading room, which seats 66. A bindery and janitor's quarters are also located here.

THE INTERIOR APPOINTMENTS - the three floor levels are served by a passenger elevator and a book lift large enough to hold a book truck. The floor in the lobby and the catalogue area is of Venetian terrazzo. Asphalt tile covers all other floor areas, which are of finished concrete.
A forced-air ventilation system filters the incoming air and insures against the entrance of dust by maintaining a slight pressure within the building. A dehumidifier is used in the archives room to protect rare documents. Fluorescent lighting is used throughout the stack and reading rooms, where the ceilings are of susendedd acoustical ical tile. Special directional lights are used in the catalogue area and in the lecture and Crosbyana rooms.

VITAL STATISTICS

Dimensions;...120ft X 90ft
Area;...33,464 sq;ft
Shelf capacity;...250,000 volumes(actual)
310,600 volumes(potential)
Cost $705,000,oo
Architect;...John W Maloney

Seating;...331 reading room seats
44 study carrels
Contractor;-Purvis Const' Co
Interior Dec's; John W Maloney
Library Furniture -Trend by
Remington Rand

Occasional furniture;...Barclay @ Brown

Of special interest to "BING" readers is the CROSBYANA ROOM, this room was designed to contain the memorabilis of one of the world's best known and best loved personalities and is ideally suited for its purpose. Located on the campus of the University to which he has shown such devotion, the room and the collection it contains is a unique memorial within a memorial. Trophy cases and swinging wing-panel displays exhibit the assembled testimonials of award, honour, and appreciation for artistic and professional genius and for humanitarian service. Among the thousands of seperate items are the twenty gold records representing Crosby recordings which have sold more than a million recordings. These attest to the popularity of a voice which has influenced the direction of American music. The OSCAR symbol of the Academy Award for acting in GOING MY WAY bears witness to the dramatic ability which has brought pleasure to all the world.

On display are citations from such organisations as THE RED CROSS, and THE AMERICAN HERITAGE FOUNDATION, from various branches of the Armed Forces, and from Government Agencies. Other articles of comendation include Bing's honorary Doctor of Music degree from Gonzaga University, expressions of appreciation from many foreign countries, and entertainment awards from numerous trade journals. While the room serves as a repository for the films, phonograph records, and personal items which are representative of Bing's contributions to our times, it also serves as an attractive meeting place for the Gonzaga University Board of Regents, of which he is a member. A conference table for 22 persons is situated in the centre of the room. Walls and leather covered chairs are sage green. The wall to wall carpet is papaya coloured and the fibre-glass draperies are gold. Accent lighting empasises the museum style cases.

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* END *
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Our thanks to Bob for drawing our attention to this aspect of Bing's 'might' - a section which is so often overlooked when accessments of the unique career of Bing is under discussion

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MICHAEL CRAMPTON LEEDS ENGLAND

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********** JANUARY 1968 REPORT **********
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Dear Friends,

I hope sincerely that your Christmas break proved enjoyable and relaxing and that by now your settled to your daily routines.
After a brief visit with you in the October issue, I have had some very pleasant Crosby experiences and will try and recount them for you in the forthcoming paragraphs.

AN UNUSUAL (CROSBYFULL) HOLIDAY

Thinking, unconsi perhaps, that a reporter ought to travel round a little, I set off from East Horsly in Surrey, intending to travel Southwards and Westwards, calling in unexpectedly on some of the luminaries of the Crosby collecting world

RALPH S HARDING

My first jump was to Anerley to one of the newest semi detached houses in that locality. Ralph was not at home to greet me, but I had the pleasure to be met by his wife Diana who laid on a meeting for the next evening for a discussion of the Crosby scene in general - I was very pleased to be able to hear from very interesting non-commercial material and was also privileged to see some of the very rare Crosby labels. Here I found myself environed with a complete Bing collection and some 10,000 records

BOB ROBERTS

My stay at Ralph's was short and now I moved on to make a quick dash to Chatham in Kent to the home of Bob and Vera Roberts - I had made a quick dash down the A4 from London hoping to catch Bing in the ROAD TO RIO - Bob and Vera welcomed me, Bob said

"Here's a friend of yours" ----I settled in to watch.
Your roving reporter was next treated to a delightful sight - I was shown into Bob Roberts CROSBY ROOM - This room is undoubtedly the finest 'den' devoted entirely to Bing that I have ever seen. It is decorated tastefully in Blue and Gold and the walls support a considerable collection of fascinating Bing records and labels. Most impressive were the transcription records and labels (16") and the 'Navy' discs - one of these 16" discs actually plays from inside to out.
Bob has perhaps the most comprehensive collection of Bing material in the UK, if not in the world, and I was proud and fascinated to be able to brouse round.
Bob's wife Vera was very generous and kind to me and she also shares Bob's interest helping him with different aspects of Crosbyana, scrap-book filing etc - Bob receives great encouragement from Vera and this must make for a highly enjoyable situation - Yet another treat was in store for me - I could stay the night and sleep among the e great surroundings - bliss indeed!!!
The next day I pressed on to Brighton, happy and contented to have stayed at Bob's Stores.

LESLIE GAYLOR

Les greeted me somewhat bewildered at my apearance and we settled down here on the Isle of Wight to a chat about Les's life long interest in the one and only, He showed me his huge pile of correspondence with the Master and his brotherLarry and it was evident that Les is held in considerable affection by them both - We graduated from letters to souvenirs and discussed Bing's recent recording activities. Since I did not have the Longines set, Les obliged with the Bing items and they made for wonderful listening on his excellent home made set.
I stayed the night on the Island and next day returned to the mainland.

My itinery was now Salisbury and finally Wales. In Salisbury I visited the Cathedral and the famous Stonhenge, but then I ran short of luck for the only time on my holiday, since time did not permit me to visit Derek Parkes, for I realised that I must press on if I was to land in Cardiff by nightfall

REG BRISTO

By any standards I had covered an ambitious programme to-date, but I had the crowning glory before me, four very happy, relaxing and educational days at Gabalfa in Cardiff - yes friends I had arrived at the home of our gifted and inim itable writer, Reg Bristo. Reg was fresh back from a visit to Birmingham and was pleasantly surprised at my appearance, I was ushered through to the lounge, there to meet Gwyn, Reg's jovial wife, and later I had the pleasure to meet their daughter Janet, who along with Reg and his mother were to make me more than welcome for the next 4 days - We managed to cpver a great deal of ground, amongst which I was to receive education about bands, their composition, personell, an introduction to some of the great names of the Golden 30's era, and a host of other topics came in f r discussion - I enjoyed too the visits to the local and a trip to the valleys to Tredegar, a place I had long wanted to visit, we managed also , by accident a visit to Aberfan and the least said about this horrible site the better.
Much as I hated it, Monday morning arrived and this saw me saying goodbye to the GREAT BRISTO FAMILY

FRANK MURPHY
Not content with the tour so far, your roving reporter dashed North on the 6th Jan to visit with Frank and family for a couple of days - North Shields is a typical Northumbrian town and contains many rwo of large Victorian houses, one of which is the heart of the ICC. Frank and Alma were working when I arrived and I was greeted by special arrangment by their four wonderful children - Linda, 2 years old is a charmer, destined to win many a mans heart - Having kindly been made welcome I made my way to the Empire Cinema in Jarrow, there to be greeted by Frank who showed me to a circle seat - during the interval to my complete surprise Bing's voice came over the air and this was most impressive. To many perhaps, this had been anormal thing in the past, but for me it was a first time - great indeed - The audience was silent, in reverence - the record "CARELESS HANDS" - The show over, we

cont over.

journied back through the famous Tyne Tunnel - and on Sunday we heard Mass at the nearby small by packed church of St Cuthbert, and after lunch got down to playing some Bing's and to making the first tentative steps towards arranging a meeting with our new Honorary member, JOHN SCOTT TROTTER - these are only in the early stages and full details will be issued later. Sunday evening saw the arrival of my old pal John Maughan and the trio of us set off round the local pubs raising our voices whenever the name of Bing came under discussion.
On Monday I lunched with Alma and Frank and then returned to Leeds in the evening The time had passed quickly but I enjoyed this lightning visit and to being in the heart of the ICC editorial room.

I had enjoyed this unusual holiday, a holiday among friends who made me very welcome wherever I went - I will not forget the generosity and kindness of Ralph and Diana Harding, of Bob and Vera Roberts, Les Gaylor, Reg, Gwyn and Janet, and Frank and Alma Murphy - I record my appreciation and debt to you all.

===== A FOGGY DAY IN LEEDS.....or'''
===== CLUB MEETING - SUNDAY NOVEMBER 19th - 1967

With the highly enjoyable Crosby excursion in my mind I set to work to prepare for the forthcoming meeting at 1, Langbar Sq, - Reg Bristo was fortunate in being able to be with us,and after preliminary difficulties he settled into enjoying a cooked meal, on the Saturday prior to the meeting. Reg received his diploma in furniture removing and siting and was a great help in preparing for the occasion, and what an occasion it turned out to be. Despite the thick fog all members who had promised to turn up., came. What a great tribute they paid to Bing and our club by braving the bad conditions. I paid tribute now to Frank Murphy, John Maughan, Bill Bell, Cyril Duncombe, Jim Moore, From the North, Arnold Pope from Manchester, Ken Hoyle from Harrogate, Jack Feather, George and Renee Smith from Keithley, Frank Ashurst and his good wife from Wigan, Les Phythian from Liverpool, John Dobson from London, and Frank Briggs and Vic Gilmore from Hull, for braving the weather in order not to miss the happenings at No 1, - The tapes from the overseas members and the MICK DRURY request tape proved to be big winners again, yet the whole programme went down even better than last year and that's high praise indeed.
BOB ROBERTS sent some non-commercial material to get our programme off to a good start - SAM STERNBERG mailed a moving greeting from Israel - the audience was silent to hear this wonderful tape and our first hearing from Sam. FRED ROMARY signed in from New York and presented a very interesting recent TV interview with Bing and Kathy. FRANK STEINER from California has us guessing with a Bing musical quiz. JACK OSBORNE and JOHNNY JONES both had recorder troubles and greetings were conveyed verbally - EDDIE RICE and JOHN SCOTT TROTTER - it was truly great to hear for the second time from Eddie and John, this message and information was received with sheer delight by the gang and the great news that you will be making England in the Spring met with great approval. KEITH HYDE airmailed from Australia and was most keen as ever to express his delight at being with usan tape - Your tape was received with welcome ap reciation Keith and we hope you'll long continue with us. FRED REYNOLDS greeted us by telephone and wished the occasion well and LES GAYLOR sent greetings by letter to all the members present.

To round off our show, Bing sang some melodies not on microgroove and as the evening wore on and our guests prepared to return home, miraculously the fog lifted. Reg stayed along until Tuesday and we visited our beloved Dales on Monday - unfortunately they were enclosed in mist - At Grassington Reg entertained at the piano in a style I've never witnessed before. The Italian waiter was spellbound -

I would like to thank those members who have taken time out to write to say thanks for the meeting - we had hoped to include some of the letters in this issue, but because of space problems this has'nt been possible, but we're grateful all the same.

and I thank you all for writing - I hope that our next meeting will bring even more new faces to Leeds for the happy times we have here.

NEW TO ME

Because of financial limitations I have not been able to buy all of the Bing LP's and do not for instance have the Singalong albums, or some of BING'S HOLLYWOOD - nor until recently did I have the following 3 albums;

WARNER BROS	W 1484	I WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS
BRUNSWICK	LAT 8044	WHITE CHRISTMAS
"	" 8216	A CHRISTMAS SING WITH BING

It has been said in this magazine that Christmas without Bing is unthinkable, I agree, and thinking that these records would be in the shops long after all others had been deleted I delayed buying them until this Christmas - I wish I had'nt, but they will be with me in the coming years and perhaps they will be enjoyed more than the others because of their seasonal appearances on the turntable - of the 3 I vote the Christmas Sing as the best performance.

THANK HEAVEN FOR TV

I think it natural friends that a young Crosby fan will be full of appreciation for the showings of older films on the small screen. It has given me the opportunity of seeing films I would not otherwise have had the chance to witness and my two favourites Bing and Deanna Durbin have featured regularly these past two years - I thought it might interest you tohave a list of these showings, and where possible I give the date and channel - The list may not be complete

8.40 Dec 22 1960 BBC BELLS OF ST MARYS
7.50 Oct 22 1964 BBC CONNECTICUT YANKEE
8.50 Dec 24 1964 BBC HOLIDAY INN
8.00 Dec 29 1964 HOLLYWOOD @ THE STARS
7.50 May 1965 BBC WELCOME STRANGER
7.25 Jun 6 1965 BBC ROAD TO UTOPIA
7.25 Jul 8 1965 BBC THE EMPORER WALTZ
2.55 Aug 28 1966 BBC ROAD TO SINGAPORE
9.05 Jan 1967 BBC SING YOU SINNERS

9.05 Feb 15 1967 BBC TOPS IS THE LIMIT
9.05 Feb 25 1967 BBC BLUE SKIES
2.25 Apr 2 1967 BBC BIRTH OF THE BLUES
6.45 Apr 13 1967 ROAD TO HONG KONG (ITV)
3.00 Aug 27 1967 BBC HERE COME THE WAVES
1967 BBC GOING MY WAY
1967 BBC BLUE SKIES
1967 BBC ROAD TO SANZIBAR
1967 BBC ROAD TO RIO

3.45 Dec 26 1967 BBC ROAD TO MOROCCO

As you can see from the above the list is incomplete and I would appreciate any details to complete the listings;

1967 INTO 1968

Right from the first weeks of January 1967 the BBC have favoured us with a considerable number of films, helping to make 1967 the most enjoyable Bing year for many a day - I must not forget too the release of the important album RARE STYLE or the Crosby meetings which help re-kindle our interest.

1968 holds good promise too, for already announced are four LP releases from the USA and Bing's Reprise EP is now released in the USA - Fred Romary may be responsible for getting some material released in the same country - so there friends, 42 years after Bing placed his first efforts on wax, we are still eagerly anticipating each new release, even if it be a re-issue. I look forward to 1968 and hope that more and more friends will come in the Circle and to my friends, EDDIE RICE FRANK STEINER, FRED ROMARY and KEITH HYDE, I send my apologies for not mailing a card for the festive season in time - I'll be in touch soon. Cont on page 46

michael crampton's
BRITISH REPORT====
continued=========
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...before I taken leave ? I have a MOST IMPORTANT announcenentto make, following a recent letter and tape from my good friend EDDIE RICE and JOHN SCOTT TROTTER, I hope that it will be possible to arrange a meeting in England with John Scott as chief guest - When I have agreed details and venue with Frank and John Scott, I hope to be in touch with you with full details - MORE LATER.

With this great news I wish you all the most prosperous and happy new year of your lives.

till April ;;;;;;;; Aloha ---------- Michael

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* "BING" CROSBY SHOPPE *
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A free spot for little space filling adverts, requests, sales, etc etc.

Members hunting for those elusive 78's might find a few lines to RECORD EXCHANGE 21 Marsden Square, Manchester 4, a sueful place to try - according to in ormation gratefully acknowledged from Roy Clark of Leeds, given time, they can acquire almost any record you require.

MUSIC FOR PLEASURE have issued a 12 album - 1183 PAUL WHITEMAN AND HIS FAMOUS FRIENDS probably a re-issue of the previous London Records album, it is a very good buy at 12/6 for it contains the famous 1947 re-union of the RHYTHM BOYS, HARRY BARRIS, BING CROSBY and AL RINKER, as well as suburb performances from people like 'Big T' JACK TEAGARDEN, JOHNNY MERCER, THE DORSEY BROTHERS, and JOE VENUTI among others - our sincer thanks to Charlie Tupper for this news-item.

THE INTERNATIONAL CROSBY CIRCLE "TIE" - Please write direct to our Irish Correspondent JOHNNY JONES for full details of this magnificient tie - your editor is already wearing one, thanks to the appreciated kindness of Johnny, and a very good tie it is too with the club initials engraved in gold within a circle on a very good quality blue material - No price is available until we have an idea of how many we need, so please write to Johnny as soon as possible in order that we can finalise the order.

BRIAN PATTINSON that great ICC scout has sent in some very useful information for record fans - REPRISE have split the LP's of the REPRETORY THEATRE into EP's.
SOUTH PACIFIC EP R30021 features Bing's version of YOUNGER THAN SPRINGTIME, the other songs being by Frank Sinatra and Co.
FINIAN'S RAINBOW EP R30022 has Bing's version of SOMETHING SORTA GRANDISH with Debbie Reynolds, the other tracks by Sinatra and Co.

WANTED V-DISCS No 2; 24; 28
I'M CRAZY OVER YOU (OK 414228) (Parl-E E6148)
HOW LONG WILL IT LAST (Br 6259) BrE 1297)
BUT NOT FOR ME (Col-India DB 30175)

TOP PRICES PAID FOR THESE ITEMS; Details to BOB ROBERTS, 56 Thorold Road, Chatham Kent, England - Bob Roberts also offers one of the finest tape services featuring MOVIE SOUNDTRACKS, HOLLYWOOD PALACE and other USA TV Bing shows and rare radio material - SAE to Bob Roberts direct for full details, prices etc.

ERIC WELCH, 20 Crescent Rd, Chadderton, Nr Oldham, Lancs, England is interested in trading or exchanging tapes featuring artists like ARTIE SHAW, BENNY GOODMAN, GLENN MILLER and other artists including rare night club recorded live in the late 30's and early 40's, in exchange for tapes of BING CROSBY material

FRED TETLOW, 30 Cromer Road, Southampton, SOI 9HT, England, has the following for sale;

THE ROAD TO BING CROSBY Parts 3 and 4 (discography)
BING IN THE HOLLYWOOD PALACE 7" EP

I have three spare copies of each of the above and will give prices on application

Fred Tetlow also produces and edits an excellent magazine called T.V.R.G. (TETLOWS VINTAGE RECORD GUIDE) for record collectors of all description. TVRG will advertise record disposals for you at nominal rates and the magazine will also advertise your wants - so far it has be n very successful in this field - Don't forget that everyone who reads TVRG is a record collector the same as yourself and the magazine also has interesting articles both serious and amusing - even if you are not an ardent collector, give TVRG a try, I assue you you will not regret it - TVRG is only 18/- per year to registered subcribers and it is issued every month - send 2/- in stamps for a sample copy now.

WALTON FILMS (or any photo shop) have issued two 8MM SOUND FILMS featuring Bing -- they are SING BING SING and BLUE OF THE NIGHT - cost £5-5-0 each - information gratefull acknowledged from Terry Quigley of the AL JOLSON MEMORIAL SOCIETY and also from Bob Roberts. the films run for 9 mins;

MR S FARROWS, 351 Mon Bank Way, Bolton, Lancs, England will pay your price for a much sought after disc, BING AND THE ANDREW SISTERS "HAVE I TOLD YOU LATELY THAT I LOVE YOU.

"BING" The 'TOP' magazine for the Crosby enthusiast - the following back number copies are available direct from Frank Murphy at 4/- (50 cents) post free;- Jan 1966-April 1966-July 1966-October 1966- Jan 1967- April 1967- July 1967 - October 1967-

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THE PETER WILSON COLUMN

*** from
*** MIDDLESBOROUGH
*** North of England
***

Hello Members,

You can imagine my surprise and delight when I opened my Daily Mirror on Dec 20 and saw an article all about the club complete with photographs of Frank and other club members, I found it very interesting and a good boost for Bing.

Among my many Christmas presents was an LP by Bing entitled MERRY CHRISTMAS comprising of 12 favourite Christmas carols - My wife bought me this so it's a record I'll always treasure - A few weeks before Christmas my wife said that whilst she was watching JUKE BOX JURY they were playing the latest Christmas records and the panel were asked to give their views on these and one of the guests replied,"there is only one Christmas record and that's WHITE CHRISTMAS by Bing Crosby - I agree.

MY SHOP AND BING RECORDS

Apart from the odd one or two records I don't have too much trouble buying Bing records locally - In these days of beat groups and long haired so called singers, shops cash in on them and stock their display counters full of pop stars, But I've always found the odd stand where you can buy Bing, Como, Williams, Ifield and even Al Jolson - Even if I can't see one I ask for it to be ordered. You may have to pay a deposit, wait a few days, but I think it's worth it if you get the record you want - Three of my local shops - BINNS, UPTONS and BOOTS the Chemists all keep catalogues of all the leading artists and all three had plenty of Bing on display.

continued on page 48

Due to the Christmas holiday's, like most people I was out celebrating quite a lot and did'nt hear too much of Bing on the radio - but here is a brief diary of what I did manage to see and hear;

Oct 1st....Film ROAD TO UTOPIA - BBC I TV
4th....South America Take it Away - Radio ***
8th....True Love - Radio ***
12th....Bing guest of Andy Williams - BBC 2 (colour) ***
15th....Galway Bay - Radio ***
19th....Gone Fishin' - Radio ***
27th....Be Careful it's My Heart - Radio ***
***
Nov 3rd....Alexanda's Ragtime Band - Radio ***
6th....short scene from Road To Hong Kong - ITV TV ***
14th....Well Did You Evah - Radio ***
16th....Samantha - Radio ***
23rd....Moonlight Bay - Radio ***
***
Dec 14th....½ hour of Bing records - Radio ***
19th....An Apple For The Teacher - Radio ***
21st....half hour of Bing records - Radio ***
23rd....White Christmas - Radio ***
26th....film ROAD TO MOROCCO - BBC I TV ***
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MY INSURANCE MAN AND ME
by the Editor of "Vintage Record Guide"- FRED TETLOW

One evening recently, the insurance man asked me if he could take a photograph of me with my records. I readily agreed and a date was arranged. The object, he said was to get it inserted in the local paper, so, he asked me to write a short article about myself and my record collecting - It was all duly done and I anxiously awaited the result and last monday the following appeared in the local press without photo.

FRED AND CROSBY

When a hobby gets a man, it really gets him. That is if it is collecting something. Ask Fred Tetlow about it. He knows. Fred, of Cromer Road, Millbrook, Southhampton is'nt struck on stamps, or brimful of beer mats or anything like that. His passion is Bing Crosby records, he's got 1,500 of them and is dissapointed - "It's only half of his vocal output" says Fred, "Bing made records faster than Icould collect them"

He discovered this a long time ago. In 1944 he was with the RAF at Malta. In a club-room he heard three Bing Crosby records, one of them was I STILL LOVE TO KISS YOU GOODNIGHT. When he walked out of the room he was a dedicated Crosby fan. It got him so bad he spent all his money collecting the reords. In 1945 when he came home on leave, his girl friend had to pay for seats at the cinema "Icould'nt understand why she was so nigly throughout the holiday" he says.

Now Fred is established as an expert on Crosby (that's what he thinks) He does a lot of trading with dealers and other enthusiasts and adds a new 78 to his collection every week - He's even started a magazine called TETLOW'S VINTAGE RECORD GUIDE which circulates throughout Britain and Europe

@@@@@@

Now, you know how pleased I was to see this little article in the paper, for, the next day I received a letter from nearby Romsey and in it the following record was

on offer. BrE 01503 WHAT DO I CARE IT'S HOME/YOU'VE GOT ME CRYING AGAIN - now all of you Crosby fans know what a tough one this is to get hold of, so you can understand why I feel so elated about it. I also have offers of other Crosby records in the district. I will let you know if I come up with anything exciting. By the way, in case there is any doubt the BrE 01503 is now part of my collection.

Now you may think, that is the end of that, but wait. The following evening while I was typing the mag a knock came to the door, when I answered it I found a young man from the BBC - "Mr Tetlow"? he said. "Yes" I replied. "I'm from the BBC. I would like to interview you" he said - The result was a recorded interview which was broadcast on the West of England Home Service at 8.30am on August 9th 1967. The interview went as follows - the time given was 27 minutes and immediately afterwards they played Bing's version of DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR

Announcer "Many an attic corner is filled with hit records of yesterday and if you look through them you are bound to find the name of the OLD GROANER on some of them. Mr Fred Tetlow of Millbrook, Southampton, has quite a collection of Bing Crosby records - 1,500 of them. David Wayne went along to see him to see how he became interested in them.

Me..On Malta in 1944 I was at Kalafrana and went into a club room there and heard three Bing Crosby records and after that I became a dedicated fan of his.
DW..What is it that appeals to you about Bing Crosby
Me..I don't know really, it's just the peculiarities of his voice, it is a unique voice, noboday has a voice like it, noboday ever has or ever will have.
DW..Now, you've got some 1,500 of his records. How many has he made?
Me..Oh, he's made over 3,000
DW..So you've got a long way to go yet
Me..Oh, Yes. I've got a long way to go. I'm sure I shall never get to the end of them.
DW..Where do you manage to get these records?
Me..Oh, all over the place, I've had them from America. I deal in the post with people all all over Britain. I get them from all sorts of places, in fact I had one given me by an 18 year old girl, one I did'nt have.
DW..So they like Bing Crosby as well, the youngsters.
Me..Not necessarily - that's why she gave me the record.
DW..How do you think Bing Crosby compares with modern singers like Engelburt Humperdinck
Me..Oh he's far superior to them, far superior.
DW..You hav'nt got much time for modern singers?
Me..Oh, I like some of them - I like Engelburt Humperdinck. I think he's got a good voice but I don't think there will ever be anyone to touch Crosby.
DW..Of course you're a bit of a vintage record fan all round. You edit a magazine I believe.
Me..Oh yes, (here comes the crunch) Tetlows Vintage Record Guide. Yes, that has helped me to get a lot of Bing Crosby records, including one I waited twenty years to get - a record called WE'RE A COUPLE OF SOLDIERS
DW..Where does the magazine circulate?
Me..Mainly in Britain, but some copies have gone to Canada, America, through Europe and even South Africa.
DW..How much are some of your Bing Crosby records worth?
Me..Well, I've got his first one and a further copy of that I sold for £4.
DW..As much as that.
Me..Yes.
DW..Well, before we go, I think we ought to hear it, and it's called?
Me..I've Got The Girl.

My copy of I'VE GOT THE GIRL was then played and the announcer then finished up by saying - "Bing Crosby's first record, in the Paul Whiteman days I should think.

====END====

COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON -----

by FRED REYNOLDS

----- and a very happy New Year to everyone. And, furthermore, may your correspondence be even more rewarding this year than was mine in that just departed. If there be among you any doubters of such extravagant well-wishing let me give you some samples from my files, etc., for the past year:

" --- completely out of order, sarcastic and uncalled for"
" some were perturbed at what you had written"
" --- lack of discretion and tact"

While I pause to let you dry your eyes, gentle reader, bear in mind that references solicited from my closest friends would confirm what a mild, innofensive, not to say craven character has attracted these epithets. On my own behalf I might add that in this irrational age I am one of the few remaining persons who have neither thrown a bottle at a referee or a brick at an Embassy window, failed a breathalyser test, assaulted a policeman, taken "pot", been on strike, passed documents to the enemy nor praised Frank Sinatra, and yet:

"I see you've been stirring it up again".
"I believe your article should not have been printed".
" --- the very dull piece you submitted"

If, temporarily, you can stifle your sobs remember that I have not walked on the grass, evicted a negro, spit on a footpath, given three cheers for Nasser, knocked anyone down on a pedestrian crossing, stolen from a Supermarket, sung obscene lyrics to the National Anthem nor frivolously pulled a communication cord but:

" --- please, no more like this"
" The editor was indubitably correct in his refusal to print your letter"
" I regret that you looked down from lofty heights"

I cannot recall cheating at dominoes, ignoring a "Non Smoker" notice, beating my wife, wheeling a golf-cart on to the green or drawing a moustache on a picture of H. Wilson, Esq., although honesty compels me to admit that I once drove at 32 m.p.h. in a built-up area and a couple of times alighted from moving 'buses. Perhaps it was for such peccadilloes that fate brought me:

" Members were very annoyed with the literary manner in which you framed it"
" --- harsh critic --- "
" In future a little more pre-thought and wisdom must be used to try to fathom out how the membership will accept things and in which way they will take it"

Such is the reward for almost exemplary conduct but if I have won no friends (nor influenced people) I do hope I haven't lost any. I am encouraged by the fact that no one actually shouted through my letter-box and I hope I may be forgiven if I find the quoted extracts - all delivered, I am sure, with honest blue eyes ablaze with sincerity - less than wholly persuasive. I am content to accept that those who rebuke my foolishness and impertinence do so from their long experience of both and leave it at that.

As I was saying when you joined me and before I run for the hills, a very happy New Year to everyone (without prejudice, of course, to any future views I may take of the Crosby scene).

RARE STYLE

Have you noticed in Bing's "Fatherly Advice" to Gary how, very early in the recording, Bing appears to start some "advice" a little too soon, stops and comes in again with "Well you have hit a knotty little problem, boy".

I heard Brian Matthew introduce "The Possibility's There" in his radio programme "Album Time", saying that he thought Peggy Lee sounded "in awe of the Master". Very complimentary to Bing, of course, but a little imaginative you may think. "D.J." Matthew was possibly unaware that long before this recording was made(in 1955)Miss Lee had worked with Bing on radio shows (Philco's) in the 1940's in the film "Mr. Music" in 1950 and had previously recorded with him ("Watermelon Weather" and "The moon came up with a great idea last night") in 1952. I have no doubt that she has great respect for Bing's ability but it is unlikely that in 1955 "awe" would affect her performance.

BRAG CORNER

Following what, I am pleased to say, is now usual custom, I again received a Christmas card from Bing. It came early - in November - and had a lovely picture of Kathy, Mary Frances, Harry, Nathaniel and Bing all laughing happily together.

MICHAEL HOLLIDAY

In the last issue of the magazine Frank mentioned the 8 mm. film taken in Hollywood of Michael and Bing together. The film was taken by Michael and the shots of him with Bing were taken by Michael's wife, Marge. I do not know the present whereabouts of the film - I have presumed that it is still with Mrs. Holliday - but on an occasion when Mike visited me he brought his cine-projector and this film together with two others and ran them through. The Hollywood one showed Bing presenting a disc to Mike, who afterwards gave me a tape of it. One of the other films was of a vacation Mike had spent in Italy. When he had arrived at his destination he found himself in the middle of a film festival and accidentally encountered several friends there. I remember some swimming pool scenes with Shirley Bassey. Michael was a lover of horses and he had bought two palomina ponies from a stable in Worcestershire. His third film showed scenes of himself riding the ponies in the grounds of his home in Surrey. Frank's mention of lost opportunities struck a chord with me - Michael had asked me to visit him at his home and I was looking forward immensely to this when tragic fate intervened.

WELL DID YOU EVAH

I was reminded recently of some correspondence I had in 1964 with E.M.I. and, although brief reference is made to the matter on page 269 of the Discography, members may be interested in some further details. Having, some time before, acquired stereo equipment I decided to get the stereo version of the L.P. "High Society" and upon comparison with my mono version found that Bing's remark "You must be one of the newer fellers" in "Well did you evah" had been omitted. E.M.I. were as puzzled as I was and asked me to return the disc to them. They were unable to tell me why the line had been left off the stereo version but said they were writing to their Associates Capitol in America who had supplied the matrix. About a month later I received a further letter to say that Capitol Records had advised that when they were editing the L.P. for stereo for some reason this particular line did not sound good enough to be included on the sound track. E.M.I. trusted that this information would clarify the position for me. I need hardly say that it didn't. Can anyone explain. in non-technical terms, why a spoken line can be satisfactorily produced only in a monaural version?

FRED REYNOLDS

The funniest things happen to an editor - there I was typing a few lines on an earlier page to our Australian buddy Keith Hyde, and on the same day, there was, lying at North Shields sorting office, a bumper bonanza of Crosby material which had arrived that very day from 'down under' and was scheduled for delivery next day - many thanks Keith for obliging so quickly and for shocking your humble into being a little more patient next time;

****
* MELBOURNE-AUSTRALIA-Tom Northrope in association with our resident-KEITH HYDE *
* presents.....AUSTRALIAN ROUND-UP..... *
****

THE MANY FACETS OF EL BINGO by TOM NORTHROPE

I ran into Jim D. the other day. "How the 'old Groaner' going"?, he asked. "Have you worked his best number out yet"? he asked, "I seem to remember you have been doing this for some years". "Well, as a matter of fact Jim, it's not quite as easy as that. Crosby is a very complex matter" I replied. "Rubbish" snorted Jim. "I have my best numbers of F....S.....lined up. No trouble at all".....Well, how could I explain the many facets of the 'Old Master' to him. So this is for Jim and also for any newer members of the Crosby Circle who also feel that it is possible to try and list the first ten. If I had realised this some years back, I would have saved myself a great deal of trouble for to be perfectly frank, and at the expence of leaving myself wide open, how can one make the life and times of Harry Lillis Crosby a simple affair?. He may have, and <u>still</u> presents the picture of one of the most relaxed characters that ever graced show business, but he leaves behind a trail as complex as the best 'who-dun-it' master could have produced.

To me, Bing is to be likened to a great tank of water with perhaps five or six taps leading from it. The water could be likened to Bing. The six taps could be called, Hawaiian, Western, Southern, Jazz, Sacred, and General. From these same taps could be found four little taplets leading off. These could also be named Period, Backing, Emotion, and Effort. So it's easy to see that to try and designate say 10 numbers in order of superiority would be exceptionally difficult.

I am what could be described as a medium collector. I am fortunate enough to have about 1,200 different numbers and close on 1,800 seperate items, (of the 1,200 numbers. 500 are Kraft Music Hall, 200 are on discs (I only have 100 records, but am rapidly increasing them) and the other 500 are on tape. Si you can see that I am reasonably small, not to be compared with Keith Hyde's fabulous collection or that of the South Australian boys. Even with the thousands of numbers that I have not got or even heard sung, I can't make my mind up. Let's analyse it a little more. I can only speak personally but I am sure that most of the members have stru struck this same problem.

YOU START TO COLLECT CROSBY BECAUSE YOU LIKE HIS VOICE.....

.....and six months later you find that 'Cros' has got past the stage of 'lust being liked' and that he is growing into a big part of your life. You begin to explore the depths of this great man. You hear his early numbers, you here his middle period and then his late period. You revel in the great bands that back him, You start to see the great depths and very large number of artists that have been helped by him and performed with him. Then the vast rangw of songs hits you. By this time your filing system has become a tremendous thing. How could anyone ever collect Crosby and not have a filing system designed to completely keep you in touch with all his activities. What bands have accompanied him? How many times has he sung with Connie Boswell, Trudy Erwin, Louis Armstrong, 'Rosie' etc etc In fact, I am now in the middle of conducting a survey of that fabulous singing

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.....group that accompanied Cros and John Scott Trotter on his Kraft Music Hall series, The Music Maids, to be followed by surveys on Connie Boswell, Trudy Erwin, The Andrews Sisters, Rosemary Clooney, the Charioteers etc etc. It becomes intensely interesting. Not to forget the great number of times that Crosby sings the same song. Think of all the times this great man has sung WHERE THE BLUE OF THE NIGHT for instance. But this is getting away from the original question, why ten best numbers cannot be picked, Let's go over to some of these facets of the water tank. Take the HAWAII , SONG OF THE ISLANDS, direct from the Hawaiian tap, it was 1936 before Bing started to sing Hawaiian - ALOHA OE, HAWAIIAN PARADISE to name a few, these could figure in any top ten, Then what about tape number two, the Western tap . It was in 1933 that this made it's first appearance, THE LAST ROUND-UP, HOME ON THE RANGE, EMPTY SADDLES, MEXICALI ROSE - and then we have his Southern tap, and the numbers are legion. Firstly his early classic with the Rhythm Boys MISSISSIPPI MUD, then OLD MAN RIVER which he has done on a number of occasions - what of HIGH WATER with Paul Whiteman, CABIN IN THE COTTON, SWANEE RIVER, BASIN STREET BLUES and also OLD BLACK JOE and KENTUCKY BABE to name just a few, and just for variety you can pick any of his Sacred songs but just make sure you remember SILENT NIGHT, ADESTE FIDELES, ROCK OF AGES - and for the Jazz section, well let's start with Paul Whiteman I'M COMING VIRGINIA' the Rhythm Boys and THEM THERE EYES, and those wonderfil M lls Brothers with DINAH and SHINE ', what of Louis 'Satchmo' Armstrong and Cros in NOW YOU HAS JAZZ and BROTHER BILL, also the Firehouse Five Plus Two PLEASE DON'T TALK ABOUT ME WHEN I'M GONE from the Philco Shows. I think, and again Miss Boswell and YES INDEED, and finally Grady Martin's TILL THE END OF THE WORLD, and finally we turn to the General tap - what about JUST A BUNDLE OF OLD LOVE LETTERS and COQUETE from the Whiteman era and THANKS TO YOU with Gus Arnheim.

Think of all the duets I hav'nt even touched on, None of Rosemary Clooney, Francis Langford, Johnny Mercer etc, and that wonderful team The Andrews Sisters etc etc.

Now if you want me to name the best 250 without any order, I may give it a go!! Therefore the lesson for the day is DON'T TRY TO TIE BING DOWN for you'll end up a nut like me. Appreciate him for what he is in EVERY number and be grateful that you are able to play him - think of the world of music that the 'Old Groaner' has given us - music that will live forever providing men of the calibre of Frank Murphy, keeps mags like this going, and men like Keith Hyde (Our Aussie Sec) keeps the 'master' in front of the public as well as he does - One final thought-don't TALK CROSBY INTO MAKING ONE MORE LAST RECORD - HE'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR A DOZEN OR TWO..... greetings for the New Year to all Cros members, Tom Northrope.

****
* KEITH HYDE *
* presents *
* 1967 in RETROSPECT *
****

With the passing of 1967, it is a pleasant thought to reflect on the great Bing events of the past year - With Bing now in almost semi-retirement, it never ceases to amaze me that so much interest is still shown in his every activity - Indeed there is somewhat of a revival of interest in Bing in this country and it is quite obvious that this healthy position applies in all countries throught the world - This enthusiasm is reflected in the pages of "BING" magazine and it augers well for the coming year and I am sure that this must be of great personal satisfaction, not only to the untiring efforts of our Hon Sec Frank Murphy and his officers but to all members of the ICC who must feel a glow of personal pride to belong to this happy, active, progressive and friendly club, whose fine atmosphere of comradeship and togetherness are in the finest tradition of our one and only Bing, who, I feel sure is as proud of us as we are of him - With such a wonderful club spirit, ICC can only go forward and I am sure we can all look forw ard to bigger and better things in 1968. Keith continues over.

Frank's brainchild has grown in stature and is now truly international and will continue to grow in strenth and to spread it's wings in the coming years - Remember friends no matter what other worthy Bing magazines may clain, ICC and BING magazine is the official Club for the Bing admirer as approved and endorsed by the Crosby Office, and as such it deserves your full support.

Reverting to the fact that Bing is in semi-retirement these days it is surprising to note, upon reflection that 1967 was far from being a poor year Bingwise - Top marks must go to the English Ace of Hearts for their issue of Bing RARE STYLE, this being the most important release of the year for us and has proved to be one of the most interesting Bing issues for years. Beautifully recorded and presented, even the cover being one of the best produced to-date, and with no less than 6 previously unnisued titles, which, even in my wildest dreams, I thought would never be released commercially. This LP alone made 1967 a year to remember. To those who hav'nt yet purchased th s LP, I say do so at all costs, even if it means letting the rent or the hirepurchase slide.
Secondly I would note the Australian RCA EP IT'S A GOOD DAY of the utmost importance with once again a good sound being presented and with three previously unnisued tracks - and other great discs to appear were;-

English ACE OF HEARTS - 122 BING IN PARIS 130 WHAT SO PROUDLY WE HAIL
136 ICHABOD 139 BING SINGS FOR CHILDREN

While in the USA LONGINES gave us further Bing tracks on
JACK BENNY'S GOLDEN DAYS OF RADIO and HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN.

Other Bing tracks appeared on USA RCA CR156 POPULAR PAIRS IN MUSIC
" " PR112 MUSIC FROM THE DANCING YEARS
and a most important release RCA(Vintage series) LPV545 "1927" with the previously unnisued version of MISSISSIPPI MUD/ITAKE MY SUGAR TO TEA - BVE39271-take 2.

USA Col CPS104 OLD TIME RADIO Vol I
USA Epic Two album set THOSE WONDERFUL GUYS OF THE STAGE, SCREEN AND RADIO
World Record Club THAT TRAVELLING TWO BEAT.

This list does not include all the special Christmas re-issues of Bings albums in countries from Australia to Holland.

On the TV screen we saw the airing of many of Bing's films in countries all over the world in addition to the Bing Irish show A LITTLE BIT OF IRISH, regular USA appearances of THE HOLLYWOOD PALACE, THE DEAN MARTIN and ANDY WILLIAMS SHOS, also BOB HOPE and DANNY THOMAS SPECIALS - re-runs in Australia of the TV domestic show In Canada the DANNY THOMAS SPECIAL which featured Bing and daughter Mary Frances. On radio in 1967 Bing was featured in special interviews in the UK, USA and in Australia and during the festive season Bing's discs were again well to the fore as usual and as a matter of interest DO YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR appeared in the Top Ten during the Christmas week on Commercial radio in Melbourne, Australia and it looks like becoming a standard. Bing records were also heard in many of the large stores here and piped' over amplifiers in large shopping centres, as no doubt they were in other large cities all over the world. In the theatres and cinemas the Bing scene was quiet, with no new Bing film being made. However RUSSIAN ADVENTURE with Bing as narrator was shown here early in 1967 and HIGHSOCIETY again did very good business with re-runs at the popular drive-ins' and theatres during the year In the press Bing received his fair share of puplicity with special emphasis on his trip to Ireland for the making of the TV special, his announcment of his intentinn to retire from the recording business, his TV drama DEMON UNDER THE BED, and the proposed film with the Australian group THE SEEKERS.
Probably the most exciting news for me was the news that Bing had returned to the recording studios to wax four sides for Reprise - this great news came to us per medium of the ICC when Frank Murphy beat everyone to the punch with news and details of the recording session almost within a few days of it taking place, congratulations Frank on obtaining this scoop' and for advising us 'Aussie' members so promptly

cont over

we do appreciate your fast 'news bulletin' when it warrents it. I believe that two of the titles have already been issued in the USA and that the other two titles will be issued shortly. I have this on order and it will make a great start to 1968 for me along with the double Columbia set from the USA also.

Well after perusing the above list of Bing activities in the various fields of show biz for 1967 I think that considering all things we can feel quite happy and reasonably happy and satisfied and if the proposed session with Longines comes off later this year and the proposed film, or films, we may get more recording sessions from Bing and 'hopefully' many more re-issues of previously unissued material released

Before closing I wish to say how pleased I was to receive the ICC Club Blazer Badge and the Auto-Motif Car Badge - it is surprising how many people notice these attractive badges and ask "is that to do with Bing Crosby" - and so another contact is made, and another friend with mutual interests, who is advised about our club, is chatting away to you in no time, as though you have known him all your life., and most important, another prospective member is introduced who never knew of our exsistance - If you didn't get one of thes e blazer badges when they were first offered I suggest you contact Frank pronto and for your sake I hope its not too late.

Many thanks to all of you who sent Christmas cards, your friendship and good wishes were sincerely appreciated, and to all members of ICC may I wish you a very happy New Year and good listening in 1968 - till next issue - cheers - Keith Hyde.

Great report Keith - great start to 1968 - to youand all the members in Australia - best regards and thanks for your continued valued support - Its good to note the especially strong backing the ICC receives from Crosby collectors 'down under' echowing the real meaning of the clubs initials - Also Keith will you please convey our special thanks to Tom for such an excellent first article for the magazine - we hope it's the first of many from his interesting pen .

REQUEST OF THE MONTH

(1) MORE THAN YOU KNOW - BING CROSBY and THE BUDDY COLE TRIO

All members of the ICC are requested to support the clubs REQUEST OF THE MONTH - the tune for this month comes from the Decca Ace of Hearts album RARE STYLE (mention this on your request cards.

(2) NOW YOU HAS JAZZ - BING CROSBY and LOUIS ARMSTRONG

(3) HELLO WALLS - BING CROSBY - from the album BING SINGS THE GREAT COUNTRY HITS - Capitol.

Just think, if every member of the club sent in three cards every week for just ONE MONTH - what an impact that could have on the record programmes - we're not saying that all requests would be played, but it would show those who receive request cards that the maestro deserves a whole lot more air space than he gets at present -

WHY NOT WRITE YOUR REQUEST CARDS OUT NOW ---before you turn over?

BING CROSBY and BETTY HUTTON in Paramount's "HERE COME THE WAVES", premiered at the Paramount, New York on 27 December 1944. (Brunswick BING 9)

BING CROSBY with MARTHA RAYE (right) in Paramount's "DOUBLE OR NOTHING", premiered at the Paramount, New York on 1 September 1937. (Brunswick BING 3)

Frank Murphy's..... FINAL/RAMBLINGS

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One final page-dedicated to bringing the "BING" scene bang up-to-date....

Though I suspect we could go on forever, and my letterbag alone could justify that statement, we have at this stage got to say,well that's it - for this issue of the magazine, and hope to pack in as many last minute items as possible - here goes-

REPRISE 0645/USA- WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE WORLD/STEP TO THE REAR
Les Gaylor states in a recent letter his dissapointment that Bing's voice has not been recorded well and that the orchestra was far too loud - and funny enough when I played the record for my children, the first comment from Angela (13(was "the music is too loud for Bing" - up to a point I agree - Alma does'nt feel the record is up to standard, but from a Crosby point of view, I feel because we are starved of new material these days we tend to be far too critical at times and my personal view is whilst I endorse Les' view that the orchestra has been much better recorded than Bing, I really like WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE WORLD in which Bing provided with a meaty solid beat give a terrific tongue in cheek vocal - we'll have more to say about this in the next issue; (record courtesy of FRED ROMARY)

LES PHYTHIAN sends his regrets at not appearing in this issue, like most of these days Les suffers from lack of time, but a supply of stencils now on there way to Les should ensure his appearance next time round.

Great letter from Bing to LES GAYLOR acknowledging the copy of RARE STYLE that Les sent Bing - Bing also told Les he's doing two new albums, one for LONGINES and one for PICKWICK RECORDS to include tunes like CHIM CHIM CHEREE, HIGH HOPES and I TALK TO ANIMALS (from Dr Doolittle) among others - sounds great Les.

I'd like to extend a sincere thanks to USA collector FRED ROMARY for some wonderful help in the record field lately for recent shipments to your editor included"1927" LPV545(USA) a great 12" album containing the unnisued take of MISSISSIPPI MUD by the Rhythm Boys and also the Columbia HALL OF FAME two album set C2L43 BING CROSBY IN HOLLYWOOD 1930-1934 - a fantastic double set - quite the most important of all album releases we've had yet - full details on this set appear in IAN BELL'S great article on page 14 - it's interesting to note that the sleeve notes give 1901 as Bing's date of birth - some say 1904, it would be interesting to get the real date.

Also awaited via Fred is Kathryn's book BING AND OTHER THINGS, but I have got on loan DON WOOLLAND'S copy which he received via Philadelphia collector LEE BLATT, and a great story it is too, with some great pics of the family - I particularly like the one captioned "Your friendly crooner 1966.

We'd like to acknowledge the following members support to our annual fund to buy Bing and Kathryn a christmas present - BRIAN PATTINSON 15/-.COLIN PUGH 10/-.BRENDA MILES 10/-.FRANK MURPHY 10/-.Robert DONALDSON 10/-.BOB & VERA ROBERTS 10/-.JOHNNY JOYCE 6/-.CYRIL DUNCOMBE 10/-.JOHN MAUGHAN 10/-.MARY HUGHES 10/-;MAUREEN CHISHOLM 10/-.MAX REID 20/-.LESLIE GAYLOR 10/-.PETER CARPENTER 6/-.ELSIE KENNEDY 10/-.KEITH HYDE £/-. MICHAEL SOPER 20/-. JOHNNY JONES 10/-. PETER MONAGHAN 10/- making a total of £10-5-0, a magnifient and muchappreciated total withwhich we bought Bing and Kathryn a beautiful cardigan each both in a delightful shade of blue - we're sure your gift was much appreciated by the Crosby's,, and our thanks to those members who subscribe to what has been and what will continue to be a regular annual feature of the ICC.

Very pleased to welcome ALFRED FARROW to the ICC for Alfred is an ex president of THE ORIGINAL BING CROSBY FRIENDSHIP CLUB - good to have you in the ICC Alfred.

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The next issue of "BING" is due out on APRIL 25th - Contributers please note that material must reach the editor by APRIL 1st - members who are able to type their own stencils are asked to write to the editor for supplies of same when their help will be gratefully acknowledged. Until April may we steal your "Aloha" Michael?..... bestregards to you all from Frank and the gang.

Remembered are the Stars, Players, Singers, and

The melodies linger on in

THE GOLDEN YEARS

Promoted by: FRANK MURPHY
Edited by: REG BRISTO

FOX · STONE · BROWNE ·
ROBINSON CLEAVER ·
CARLISLE · DENNIS ·
HYLTON · PAYNE ·
SAVOY ORPHEANS ·
BOWLLY · ROY ·
CROSSMAN ·
GONELLA ·
DIXON ·
FOORT ·
KUNZ ·
LEVY ·
LOSS ·
MILLER
FERRIS ·
LIPTON ·
CONWAY ·
MERRIN ·
AMBROSE ·
BUCKMAN ·
GIBBONS ·
GUSTARD, many others

. . . . and from way down east in the state of Maine, there came a young man . . . . . his name Rudy Vallee.

Published Quarterly on the 25th January, April, July, October

Produced for all those who desire to keep the memories and the sounds of the 30's fresh and alive, and catering for the many associations and appreciation societies formed to perpetuate the memory of the great personalities of THE GOLDEN YEARS.

BING WRITES A PERSONAL LETTER TO LESLIE GAYLOR

BING CROSBY - HOLLYWOOD

HILLSBOROUGH
Jan 11, 1968

Dear Leslie,

I received the album RARE STYLE, and you are right - it does have a nice selection of material. There are about six or seven songs on there that I don't remember doing. Of course some of them were made so long ago that it's understandable that I would have forgotten - I was pleased too with the accompanying material written by Geoff Milne.

I'm going to take the album down to one of the disc jockey's here in San Francisco, and see if I can get him interested in playing some of the tunes. The musical background on most of the selections is quite outstanding too. I think a great deal of it was done by Trotter, but I'm not sure.

Yes it's true, I'm doing another Longines recording with a good selection of songs, I believe - most of themstandards.

I'm also doing an album for PICKWICK RECORDS including a couple of songs from DR DOOLITTLE, "MY FRIEND THE DOCTOR" and I TALK TO ANIMALS" also HIGH HOPES, CAMELOT, DO RI ME from THE SOUND OF MUSIC, CHIM CHIM CHEREE, GETTING TO KNOW YOU and five others to be selected.

Both of these al ums should be done before March, I imagine.

I'm grateful to you Leslie for your continued support and interest. I hope you're having some good weather there this winter. England has been plagued enough with the devaluation of the pound and the hoof and mouth disease and one thing and another - Certainly you deserve some good weather.

All Best wishes

signed Bing

BING CROSBY

BC:LM

cc Mr Larry Crosby.

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I'm sure ALL members will congratulate Les on his receiving such a wonderful and friendly letter from Bing - and the ICC is proud to be again first in the field via Bing and Les with some special news re forthcoming releases - We don't often crow - but you've got to hand it to the ICC - we miss nothing that really matters;

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Introducing STEVE MASON of BRONX - New York 10458 - USA

Not yet a member but we hope via some correspondence now en route to him to him in America from our North of England headquarters - Steve's very impressive headed notepaper describes him as THE CROONER in the CROSBY AND VALLEE style - Steve has also made what appear to be some very interesting records too and he sings them today in the style of the 30's - More news about Steve in the April BING when we hope to welcome him as a fully fledged member of the group.

THE BING CROSBY SONG ALBUM

Song No.1. IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU

Verse

Do you believe in charms and spells
In mystic words and magic wands and wishing wells?
Don't look so wise, don't show your scorn
Watch yourself, I warn you

Refrain

Hide your heart from sight, lock your dreams at night
It could happen to you
Don't count stars or you might stumble
Someone drops a sigh, and down you tumble
Keep an eye on Spring, run when church bells ring
It could happen to you
All I did was wonder how your arms would be
And it happened to me

Information

From the Paramount Picture "And the angels sing"
Starring:- Dorothy Lamour, Fred MacMurray & Betty Hutton
Words by Johnny Burke
Music by Jimmy Van Heusen
This song was recorded by Bing on 29 Dec 43, and issued on various labels from many countries. British issues on Bru 78 rpm 03547, and Bru 10" LP, LA 8595.
With John Scott Trotter and his Orchestra.

Song No.2. MOONLIGHT BAY

Verse

Voices hum, crooning over Moonlight Bay
Banjos strum, tuning while the moonbeams play
All alone unknown they find me
Memories like these remind me
Of the girl I left behind me
Down on Moonlight Bay

Chorus

We were sailing along on Moonlight Bay
We could hear the voices ringing, they seem to say
"You have stolen my heart, now don't go 'way"
As we sang Love's old sweet song, on Moonlight Bay

Verse

Candle lights gleaming on the silent shore
Lonely nights, dreaming till we meet once more
Far apart, her heart is yearning
With a sigh for my returning
With the light of love still burning
As in days of yore

Information

Featured in the Warner Bros. Picture "On Moonlight Bay"
Starring:- Doris Day and Gordon MacRae
Words by Edward Madden
Music by Percy Wenrich
This song was recorded by Bing, with GARY CROSBY, on 22 Mar 51, and issued on various labels from many countries. British issues on Bru 78 rpm 04781, Bru EP OE 9027, and Bru 12" LP LAT 8306
With Matty Matlock and his All Stars

Song No.3. AH SWEET MYSTERY OF LIFE (The dream melody)

Ah sweet mystery of life, at last I've found thee
Ah I know at last the secret of it all
All the longing, seeking, striving waiting, yearning
The burning hopes, the joy and idle tears that fall
For 'tis love, and love alone, the world is seeking
And 'tis love, and love alone, that can repay
'Tis the answer, 'tis the end and all of living
For it is love alone that rules for aye

This song was recorded by Bing on 2 Dec 38, accompanied by Victor Young and his Concert Orch.

INFORMATION

From the Victor Herbert Operetta "NAUGHTY MARIETTA".
Also featured in the MGM film of the same name, starring Nelson Eddy & Jeanette MacDonald
Words by Rida Johnson Young
Music by Victor Herbert
Issued on many labels inc the British 78 Bru 02761 and 10" LP LA 8600.

Song No.7. THEY CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY FROM ME

Verse

Our romance won't end on a sorrowful note
Though by tomorrow you're gone
The song is ended, but as the song writer wrote
The melody lingers on
They may take you from me, I'll miss your fond caress
But though they take you from me, I'll still possess

Refrain

The way you wear your hat
The way you sip your tea
The mem'ry of all that
No, no, they can't take that away from me
The way your smile just beams
The way you sing off key
The way you haunt my dreams
No, no, they can't take that away from me
We may never, never meet again
On the bumpy road to love
Still I'll always, always keep the mem'ry of
The way you hold your knife
The way we danced till three
The way you've chang'd my life
No, no, they can't take that away from me
No, they can't take that away from me

Information

Featured in the Radio Picture "SHALL WE DANCE", starring Fred Astaire & Ginger Rogers.
Music by George Gershwin
Lyrics by Ira Gershwin
Recorded by Bing on American and English labels only up to the present time, and issued in England on Bru 78 rpm 04293 and Bru 10" LP LA 8666

Recorded on 12 Nov 47
With John Scott Trotter and his Orchestra

Song No.8. LOVE ME OR LEAVE ME

Verse

This suspense is killing me, I can't stand uncertainty
Tell me now, I've got to know, Whether you want me to stay, or go

Chorus

Love me or leave me, and let me be lonely
You won't believe me, and I love you only
I'd rather be lonely, than happy with somebody else
You might find the night-time, the right time for kissing
But night-time is my time for just reminiscing
Regretting instead of forgetting with somebody else
There'll be no one unless that someone is you
I intend to be independently blue
I want your love, but I don't want to borrow
To have it today, and to give back tomorrow
For my love is your love, There's no love for nobody else

Information: From the Warner Bros Picture "LOVE ME OR LEAVE ME" starring Doris Day and James Cagney.
Lyric by Gus Kahn, Music by Walter Donaldson.
Recorded by Bing on 24 Dec 47.
Issued up to the present time in America and England only and in 78 rpm form only.
English issue on Catalogue No Bru 04867.
With John Scott Trotter and his Orchestra.

Song No.9. TOO LATE

Verse

A million tomorrows for one yesterday
That's what I'd gladly trade
A mountain of sorrows now stand in my way
A mountain I foolishly made
A wall between you and I
A wall that seems to cry

Refrain

Too late, I thought that love would always wait
I learn'd that love don't hesitate, too late, too late
Love mate, I heard my heart cry for a mate
I told my heart it had to wait, until too late
I laugh'd at every love vow, and paid the penalty
I used to laugh at love, now love laughs at me
Too late, A fool will always play with fate
That's why I've reach'd the golden gate too late, too late

Information

Song by Sam Lewis & Victor Young
Featured by MARGOT GRAHAME in "ILLEGAL", an All British Warner Bros.First National Picture.
Recorded by Bing on 8 Oct 31.
Issued in America, Australia, and England.
British Cat No's: 78 rpm Bru 1270, 10" LP Bru LA 8740, 12" LP Ace of Hearts AH 88
With Victor Young & his Orchestra.

Song No.10. THE SINGING HILLS

Verse

Tonight I wander down the mountain trail
And I'm alone and blue, with only dreams of you
And as I watch the mellow moon grow pale
Sweet music fills the air, sweet music ev'rywhere

Chorus

The singing hills (mm mm) are singing tonight (mm mm)
And echoing a song of long ago
The singing hills (mm mm) were singing that night (mm mm)
That lovely night you said "I love you so"
The wind in the valley, joined in our sweet refrain
But now the wind and I, each night we cry "Come back again"
Tho' you are gone,(mm mm) the song lingers on (mm mm)
Still echoing among the singing hills

Information

Words and music by Mack David, Dick Sanford & Sammy Mysels
Recorded by Bing on 25 Feb 40
Issued in America, Australia & South Africa, plus the English issues on Bru 78 rpm 02978, and Bru 12" LP LAT 8253
With John Scott Trotter and his Orchestra.

Song No.11. TAKE ME BACK TO MY BOOTS AND SADDLE

Take me back to my boots and saddle
Ooh-ooh-ooh, Ooh-ooh-ooh, Ooh-ooh-ooh
Let me see that gen'ral store
Let me ride that range once more
Give me my boots and saddle
Let me ramble along the prairie
Ooh-ooh-ooh, Ooh-ooh-ooh, Ooh-ooh-ooh
Ropin' steers on old "Bar X"
With my buddies, Slim and Tex
Give me my boots and saddle
Got a hankerin' to be, with a banjo on my knee
Strummin' a pretty Western tune
There's a gal in Cherokee, and she's waitin' there for me
Waitin' beneath a Texas moon
So take me back to my boots and saddle
Ooh-ooh-ooh, Ooh-ooh-ooh, Ooh-ooh-ooh,
Let me greet each blazin' morn
On the ranch where I was born
Give me my boots and saddle
Ooh-ooh-ooh, Ooh-ooh-ooh, Ooh-ooh-ooh

Information

Song by Teddy Powell, Leonard Whitcup and Walter G. Samuels.
Recorded by Bing on 12 Nov 35
Issued on various labels in many countries, and on British Bru 78 rpm 02100 and 02923, and Bru 12" LP LAT 8152
With Victor Young & his Orchestra